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VOLUME 2



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THE  
**Biographical**  
**M A G A Z I N E;**  
CONTAINING  
**PORTRAITS**  
OF  
**EMINENT AND INGENIOUS PERSONS**  
OF  
**EVERY AGE AND NATION,**  
WITH  
**THEIR LIVES AND CHARACTERS.**

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“ THE PROPER STUDY OF MANKIND IS—MAN.”

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VOLUME II.

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## SIR SAMUEL ROMILLY.

THIS great and lamented advocate of law and humanity was of a family that had been intimately connected with whatever appertains to civil and religious liberty, for more than a century. His ancestors were among some of the most respectable that were driven from France by Louis XIV. His father, an ingenious man, of great eminence in his profession as jeweller to the king, resided in Broad-street. His son, being destined for the law, was placed under a respectable gentleman in the six clerks' office, and by him he was advised to enter his name as a member of one of the inns of court. Accordingly, after keeping the usual number of terms, he was called to the bar. About the year 1796 he acquired great celebrity as counsel for Mr. Gale Jones, tried for sedition at Warwick; afterwards, directing his attention to the chancery bar, he soon attained considerable eminence. He also went the midland circuit, and his fortune and his practice augmented with an equal pace. Many years since, the Marquis of Lansdown being sensible of Mr. Romilly's merits, he was a constant visitor at Bow Wood, that nobleman's summer residence, with Mr. Jekyl, the present master in chancery.

In Wiltshire, he first became acquainted with Miss Garbett, whom, after returning from a tour to France and Switzerland, he married, at Knill, in Wiltshire, in January 1798. Having always exhibited a marked attachment to constitutional liberty, Mr. Romilly was at length selected as a fit person to fill the office of solicitor-general; and when Mr. Fox and Lord Grenville came into office, he succeeded Sir Vicary Gibbs, and was immediately knighted. It being then necessary that he should have a seat in the House of Commons, he was returned for Queenborough; and, notwithstanding his laborious attendance required by his profession, he never ceased to discharge his duties, as a member of that house, with a discrimination and energy peculiar to himself.

One of his first efforts for the public good terminated in passing a bill, "For the more effectually securing the payment of the debts of traders." In the impeachment of Lord Melville, and the abolition of the slave-trade, he was not less distinguished in the house. When Sir Samuel was dismissed from office, with the rest of his friends in that administration, he made an able defence of their conduct before the house. In May 1803, he proposed his bill for repealing certain parts of the criminal code. In fact, not only this benevolent effort, but the whole tenor of his parliamentary conduct, has evidently tended to endear his memory to his country at large, and even commanded the respect of his political adversaries. And where was the bosom that was not pained at the overthrow of that intellect and feeling, that rendered the loss of a beloved wife intolerable, and led him to put an end to his own existence, at his house, in Russell-square, Nov. 1, 1818? Hence, Earl Grey observed: "Amongst all the public losses, none can excite a deeper or more sincere regret than the loss of Sir Samuel Romilly: but the extraordinary powers of his mind, the possession and exhibition of the best affections of the heart, combined with the greatest principles of private virtues, the extent of his learning, and the variety of his knowledge and acquirements; his invincible integrity and noble disinterestedness; his eminence in his profession; and his exclusion from all honours which were within his reach; must for ever render his memory illustrious.—The impartiality of Sir Samuel's past conduct had borne ample witness to the purity of his public views, to his attachment to the cause of freedom, to his unwearied and devoted patriotism, and to the depth of his parliamentary knowledge."

His remains were interred in the family vault of Lady Romilly's father, at Knill, where their marriage union took place.





## ARCHBISHOP LAUD.

THIS eminent prelate was the son of William Laud, a clothier, at Reading, and born there in 1573. From the free school there, he was removed to Oxford in 1589. In 1593, he was elected fellow, and in the year ensuing took the degree of B. A. and in 1598 that of M. A. being also chosen grammar lecturer for that year. In 1600, he was ordained deacon, and priest in 1601. Being chosen proctor of the university in 1603, he became chaplain to Charles Blount, Earl of Devonshire, and the year following took the degree of B. D. Contending for the visibility of the church, the necessity of baptism and diocesan bishops, he was opposed by Dr. Holland, at that time divinity professor, as aiming to sow division between the church of England and the reformed churches abroad. Henceforward his opinions rendered him obnoxious to moderate men, and the public resentment was not a little increased by his imprudently marrying his patron, the Earl of Devonshire, to Penelope, the divorced wife of Lord Robert Rich.

Till 1617, his promotion in the church was very considerable, and he was now chosen to attend his Majesty, James I. to Scotland, where his fruitless endeavours to bring the kirk to a uniformity with that of England served to increase the number of its enemies. Charles I. ascending the throne, bishop Laud was taken into the highest degree of favour and confidence; he was extremely active in the high commission court, and is supposed to have prompted the execution of the barbarous sentence passed upon Dr. Alexander Leighton, a Scotch divine, who wrote "Zion's Plea against Prelacy." In his professional capacity, after Laud became archbishop, his chief employment seems to have been the care of the externals of religion. He caused the churches in general to be ornamented with pictures and images; the communion tables in each to be railed in at the east end, and denominated altars. Kneeling at these altars, and the use of copes, were also rigorously enforced, the whole of which were regarded as so many advances towards popery. In 1634, he caused the revival of "The Book of Sports," actively prosecuting such clergymen as refused to read it. His next effort was to compel foreigners residing in England to conform to the established church. The violent proceedings against Prynne, Bastwick, and Burton, generally increased the popular resentment against the archbishop; his ingratitude to archbishop Williams; the measures he advised against Scotland; and, lastly, what was deemed the pious mummary performed by himself in the consecration of the church of St. Catharine Cree; contributed to render this unfortunate ecclesiastic almost an object of general detestation.

The constitutional canons issued from the convocation, continued by Laud after it should have broken up, at length roused all the vengeance of the celebrated assembly, called the Long Parliament. Denzell Holles, second son to the Earl of Clare, by their order, impeached the archbishop of high crimes and misdemeanors at the bar of the upper house. In March 1641, he was committed to the Tower amidst the reproaches and insults of multitudes, and ordered to pay a fine of more than 20,000*l*. In 1644, he was brought to trial, which lasted twenty days, and he was found guilty, though not upon sufficient evidence; the king's pardon was disregarded, and, on the 10th of January 1645, beheaded on Tower-hill; where, though he made a long and affecting speech, numbers seemed to rejoice in his death; and he thus fell a victim to his endeavours to extend the royal prerogative beyond its due limits in church and state.

He was, says Fuller, low in stature, little in bulk, cheerful in countenance, of a sharp and piercing eye, clear judgement, and, abating the influence of age, of firm memory. .





## SIR EDWARD COKE.

THIS great constitutional lawyer was the son of Robert Coke, esq. of Mileham, in Norfolk. He was born at his father's seat, in 1549; and, having been educated at Norwich grammar school, was from thence sent to Trinity-college, Cambridge. After he had resided here four years, he came to London, and, settling in Clifford's-inn, became a student of the Inner Temple. In Trinity Term 1578, he was called to the bar; and, being then about thirty years of age, was appointed reader of Lyon's Inn, where his learned lectures were much attended.

About a twelvemonth after, he married Bridget, the daughter of John Paston, esq. of Norfolk, which accelerated his advancement. The cities of Norwich and Coventry chose him for their Recorder, and he was frequently consulted on the Queen's affairs; and, in 1592, appointed her solicitor. He was next returned knight of the shire for Norfolk, and, in the parliament of the 35th of Elizabeth, chosen speaker of the house of commons; and, soon after, attorney-general. Having lost his wife, by whom he had ten children, he married Lady Hatton, relict of Sir William Hatton. In his prosecution of the Earl of Essex, after the manner of the times, he mingled the bitterest virulence with the grossest adulation of the sovereign.

In May 1603, he was knighted by James I.; and, in the ensuing November, managed the trial of Sir Walter Raleigh, at Winchester, to which city the term had been adjourned, on account of the plague. On this occasion, his harshness towards the prisoner was criminally conspicuous: however, his sagacity in unravelling the dark scenes of the gunpowder-plot, and his speech against Henry Garnett the Jesuit, obtained him considerable reputation. In 1605, he was appointed lord chief justice of the Common Pleas; and, after holding this place for seven years with great reputation, he was, in 1613, made lord chief justice of the King's Bench, and sworn of his Majesty's privy council.

Such were the vicissitudes of fortune, that in 1613, he was brought on his knees before this tribunal, for "speeches of high contempt, uttered in the seat of justice, and uncomely and undutiful carriage in the presence of his Majesty, the privy council, and judges;" and the king dismissed him from his office. Sir Edward soon got again into favour; but in 1621, had his papers seized, and was for a short time imprisoned in the Tower. James the First used to say, "Coke was like a cat, which always falls on its legs."—The noble opposition Coke had constantly made against that arbitrary power which was the darling wish of the two Stuarts to exercise, never shone more brilliantly than in 1621, when the king called a parliament, which Coke supported against the usurped power of the crown. Their privileges, he asserted, were a part of the constitution, subsisting independently of the prerogative; they were, in fact, the rights of the subject, and no proclamation could be of any force against one of its acts. In the parliaments held during the reign of Charles I. Sir Edward Coke was not less distinguished than before. Upon the commission of the five members by this weak monarch, Sir Edward observed, "that if Englishmen might be imprisoned at his will, they were in a worse case than bondmen or villains." Sir Edward had a principal hand in framing the *Petition of Right*. After the dissolution of this parliament he resided in the country; and, no other being called during the remainder of his life, he died, in retirement, at Stoke Pogis, in Buckinghamshire, in 1634; aged 86. His reputation as a writer is so firmly established in our courts, that his works are deemed irrefragable, especially his Reports, and his Comment upon Sir Thomas Littleton's Tenures.





## THOMAS CHATTERTON.

THIS child of premature genius was the posthumous son of a person, in humble life, in Bristol, and born in 1752. It was not till he had been delighted with the illuminated capitals of an old manuscript, that he took even to learning his letters. This circumstance and his being taught to read in an old black-letter Bible was thought to have had a share in the peculiar turn he afterwards took in the imitation of antiquities. All the scholastic instruction he received was at a charity school. Always more serious than the rest of the boys, about his tenth year he took to reading, and, by the end of the next year, made out a catalogue of the books he had read, amounting to seventy, chiefly of history and divinity. Some verses he certainly composed at twelve years of age; and, in his fifteenth year, left school, and was articled to a scrivener at Bristol: here his leisure was employed in literary pursuits, and the circumstance of a number of manuscripts being found in a chest in the church of St. Mary Redcliffe, some of which he had possession of, soon furnished him with an opportunity of displaying his invention.

When the new bridge, at Bristol, was opened in 1768, a paper appeared in Farley's Bristol Journal, entitled, "a Description of the Fryar's first passing over the Old Bridge, taken from an antient Manuscript." This was traced to Chatterton, who, after some variation in the account he gave, asserted that it came from the chest in Redcliffe church. He next propagated a rumour, that certain antient pieces of poetry had been found in the same place, written by Thomas Canynge, and Thomas Rowley, a priest, his friend. These, being communicated from one person to another, acquired, for Chatterton, the patronage of Mr. Barrett and Mr. Catcott; and, being written upon small pieces of vellum, passed for originals. After this, Chatterton was occasionally gratified with presents of money and books for the prosecution of his studies.

In 1769, unfortunately sending some of his papers to the celebrated Horace Walpole, his friends Gray and Mason pronounced them forgeries; but, after keeping the papers a considerable time, returned them to Chatterton in a blank cover. Chatterton had previously engaged to write for the Town and Country Magazine, &c. Besides extracts from the pretended Rowley, there were Saxon Poems, in the style of Ossian. In 1770, he composed a satirical poem of 1300 lines, entitled "Kew Gardens," abusing the Princess Dowager of Wales, Lord Bute, and the principal partisans of ministers in Bristol.—After this he came to London, and was engaged in so many publications, that it is surprising how, with a common share of industry, he could possibly fall into want. His pride and high spirit, however, continued with him till the last, refusing a dinner a short time before he put an end to his existence, a few days after, August 24, 1770, before he had completed his eighteenth year, as it is supposed in consequence of swallowing a dose of arsenic. He was then in lodgings in Brook-street, Holborn. His remains were interred in the burial ground of Shoe-lane workhouse.

He probably found he had nothing to hope from the patronage of the great, and could not reconcile himself to a hard-earned dependence on the booksellers, though there were many examples of persons who had raised themselves considerably in this way.—But, having renounced the Christian religion with its consolations, and marred his hopes in the present life by a forgery with which he first set out, his unhappy fate may afford a lesson upon the danger of a deliberate violation of truth, even in affairs that may at first appear trivial. The works of this eccentric youth were collected and published after his death.





## LORD CLARENDON.

THIS illustrious historian was born at Dinton, near Hindon, in Wiltshire, in 1608. From the private tuition of the vicar of this place, he was removed to Magdalen-hall, Oxford. Being initiated to drinking whilst here, he afterwards looked upon his leaving it as one of the most fortunate events of his life. At the Middle Temple he studied the law for several years, under his uncle Nicholas Hyde, afterwards chief justice of the King's Bench. He was still a student at the time of his uncle's death; but he was not only determined to continue his studies, but also to marry, for the purpose of binding himself to more regular habits of life. His first wife, to his deep regret, he lost by the small-pox six months after their union. In the course of three years, he married the daughter of Sir Thomas Aylesbury, by whom he had a numerous progeny.

His success, upon his first appearance at the bar, greatly surpassed the expectation founded upon his previous habits; but what chiefly contributed to this good fortune, was his introduction to Archbishop Laud. His practice was so great, that the courts of law elained his mornings, and the preparations for them his afternoons. From the evenings, from sleep, or from the vacations, he stole the time applied to his favourite belles lettres; and, on quitting London two months in the year, he indulged in cheerful hospitality, at his seat in Wiltshire. In 1640, he was elected member for Wooton Bassett; and, in parliament, his abilities could not long be concealed from the leading men of the house. In the Long Parliament, he served for Saltash. He was appointed chairman of several committees, and acquired great credit by procuring the annihilation of the marshal's court; and also as a manager of a conference with the House of Lords, upon the tyrannical jurisdiction of a tribunal, called "The Court of York;" and by a learned speech against the judges, who had given their opinions in favour of the King's levying ship-money. When the treaty of Uxbridge had been broken off, Sir Edward Hyde's office was for some time to attend the Prince of Wales in the west; but, after the battle of Naseby, Charles sent his eldest son abroad. Hyde himself removed to the Island of Jersey, where he had leisure to compose a considerable part of his History of the Rebellion. Antwerp was the next place to which Hyde retired, and in 1657, upon the death of Herbert, his Majesty made him lord chancellor. After the Restoration, which soon followed, he was entrusted with the management of the principal part of the public business; and, in 1660, elected chancellor of the university of Oxford and advanced to the peerage by the title of Baron Hyde. In 1661, he was created Viscount Cornbury and Earl of Clarendon.

After enjoying the full sunshine of royal favour for several years, and sustaining many unjust accusations, he was, in August 1667, removed from all his employments. This was followed by banishment, in which he passed seven years, in France, and died at Rouen in 1674, after having the mortification of being denied the privilege of dying in his own country among his children.

Clarendon, says an illustrious statesman, was unquestionably a lover of truth and a sincere friend to the constitution of the country. He defended that constitution in parliament with zeal and energy, against the encroachments of prerogative; at the same time, he opposed with equal determination those continually increasing demands of parliament, which appeared to him to threaten the existence of the monarchy itself. If Monk had the glory of restoring the monarchy of England; to Clarendon must be ascribed the merit of re-establishing her laws and liberties. His History of the Civil Wars has been admitted, even by Hume, as the most candid account of those times, with only one exception.





## SIR FRANCIS DRAKE.

THIS celebrated navigator and great commander was the son of Edmund Drake, a mariner, and was born near Tavistock in Devonshire, in the year 1545. His father being encumbered with a family of twelve children, Captain Hawkins, his mother's relative, kindly took Francis under his care, and educated him for the sea. At the age of eighteen, he was made purser of a ship trading to the Bay of Biscay, and at twenty he made a voyage to Guinea; at twenty-two he was appointed captain of the *Judith*, when his gallant behaviour in the harbour of Ulloa, under Sir John Hawkins, raised his reputation considerably, though the little property he had was lost in the expedition. In 1570 he made his first cruise against the Spaniards with two ships, the *Dragon* and *Swan*, and is supposed to have recovered his former loss. Having obtained sufficient information to warrant a more important expedition, he sailed again in March 1572; and with his small armament, that carried no more than seventy-three men and boys, in the year following he attacked the town of Nombre de Dios, which they took by storm in a few hours; but, owing to a misunderstanding amongst his people, they brought off very little treasure, compared with the store of gold and silver deposited in that place. After plundering Vera Cruz, he met with fifty mules laden with plate; and, in these enterprizes, he was very much assisted by a tribe of Indians, perpetually at war with the Spaniards.

In 1576, Queen Elizabeth took Captain Drake under her own immediate protection: from this, he was encouraged to propose a voyage to the South Seas through the Straights of Magellan, till then unattempted by any Englishman. Having ultimately put to sea, in 1577, on the 5th of April, he made the Coast of Brazil; and, after leaving St. Julian, entered the Straights of Magellan on the 20th August; passed them on the 25th of September, and entered the South Sea. Discovering California, he gave it the name of New Albion; after making the Moluccas, touching at Java, and the island of Ternate, he continued his course for the Cape of Good Hope; and arrived at Plymouth in 1580. On the 4th of April in the following year, the Queen favoured him with a visit on board his own ship at Deptford, where she conferred the honour of knighthood upon him.

In 1585, Admiral Drake was sent with an expedition of twenty-one sail and 2000 land forces to the West Indies. The success of this voyage exceeded the most sanguine expectation, though the emoluments were small, Drake's instructions being rather to weaken the enemy than to make prizes. In 1588, he was appointed vice-admiral, under Lord Howard of Effingham, and highly signalized himself in the engagements with the Spanish armada. His last expedition, in 1596, was clouded with ill success.—The Spaniards at Porto Rico and other places were stronger and better fortified than before.

A deep melancholy terminated in a bloody flux; dying on the 28th of January 1596: his body was sunk very near the place where he first laid the foundation of his fame and fortune, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. In his person, he was low of stature, but well proportioned; his head round, his hair of a fine brown, his eyes large and clear, and of a fair engaging complexion. He is said to have been choleric, and fond of flattery; but he was a steady friend, and very liberal to those who served under him. By his great abilities, his valour and enterprising spirit, he improved the art of navigation, opened the way to our commerce in the East, was the great author of our navigation in the West, and was the first Englishman and commander that encompassed the globe.





## DR. WATTS.

THIS exemplary divine was born at Southampton, July 17, 1674.—His parents, though in an humble situation, were eminent in their attachment to the cause of religion, which they evinced by their sufferings as protestant dissenters in the reign of Charles the Second. Isaac, the eldest of nine children, discovered from his infancy a remarkable propensity to learning, and was soon distinguished for the sprightliness and vivacity of his fancy. When only four years of age, he began to learn Latin at home, but was further instructed in that language, Greek, and Hebrew, by Mr. Pinhorne, master of the free school. His literary attainments suggested a subscription for the support of young Watts at the university; but he frankly declared his resolution of adhering to the dissenters, among whom he had been educated; and, as Dr. Johnson observed, “such as he was, every Christian church would have rejoiced to have adopted him.” In 1690 he was sent to an academy in London, under the direction of Mr. Rowe. Mr. Watts was a maker of verses, from fifteen to fifty. Dr. Johnson observes, some of his Odes are deformed by the Pindaric folly then prevailing. Whilst under the tuition of Mr. Rowe, his behaviour was not only so consistent as to obviate the necessity of a single reproof, but so exemplary, that it was often proposed as a pattern to the rest. In his nineteenth year he joined the Independent congregation under Mr. Rowe, and left his academy at the age of twenty; when, returning to his father’s house, he spent two more years in study. In 1696, he was invited by Sir John Hartopp, Bart. to reside in his family at Stoke Newington; and, being chosen assistant to Dr. Chauncy, he preached, the first time, on his birth-day that completed his twenty-fourth year. In 1702, he succeeded Dr. Chauncy in his ministerial office. Between 1703 and 1712, he was brought so low by illness, that he was not able to resume his pulpit till 1716. In the mean time, by his desire, Mr. Price was chosen by the congregation to be joint pastor with him. Being invited into the house of Sir Thomas Abney, he was there treated during thirty-six years with all the kindness that friendship could suggest, or respect could inspire. Sir Thomas died about eight years afterwards; but he continued with Lady Abney and her daughter to the end of his life.

The life of Dr. Watts, during the whole period of his residence in this family, was no otherwise diversified than by the successive publications, the number and variety of which shew the intenseness of his study and the extent of his capacity. In 1728, the universities of Edinburgh and Aberdeen, without any kind of solicitation, conferred on him, by special diploma, the degree of doctor of divinity. When the infirmities of age disabled him from the more laborious part of his ministerial labours, he offered to remit his salary; but this his congregation would not accept. At length, confined to his chamber and his bed, he expired at Stoke Newington, without pain, on the 5th of November 1748, in the seventy-fifth year of his age.

With respect to his writings, it may be questioned whether any author before him appeared with equal reputation on such a variety of subjects in prose or verse: their duration is a sufficient evidence of their sterling value. In his natural temper, Dr. Watts was quick in resentment; but, by his established and habitual practice, he was gentle, modest, and inoffensive. To the poor, while he lived in the family of his friend, he allowed the third part of his annual revenue. Few men, Dr. Johnson observes, have left behind such purity of character, or such monuments of laborious piety, he being one of the few with whom youth and ignorance may be safely pleased; and happy is that reader, whose mind is disposed to copy his benevolence to man, or his reverence to God.





## JOHN HUNTER.

THIS eminent improver of the surgical art was the youngest of ten children, and born at Kibride, in Lanerk, in Scotland, in February 1728, at Long Calderwood, a small estate belonging to the family of the Hunters, when his father had nearly arrived at his 70th year. Mr. John Hunter, who had not devoted much time to education, arrived in London in September 1748, being invited to assist his brother, Dr. William Hunter; and such was his proficiency in anatomy, that, in the following summer, the celebrated Chelsden permitted him to attend Chelsea hospital, where he had leisure to trace the progress of nature through all her operations of disease. From presiding over the pupils in his brother's lecture room, he became a pupil himself, in 1751, at St. Bartholomew's hospital.

In 1753, he entered as gentleman commoner at St. Mary's-hall, Oxford, as it is said, on account of his intimacy with Dr. Smith, the anatomical professor in that university. However, the year following he was entered as surgeon's pupil at St. George's-hospital, and two years after was appointed house surgeon. In 1755, his brother William admitted him into a partnership in his lectures. From this time to 1760 his reputation was daily increasing. In 1760, Mr. Adair, inspector of hospitals, appointed him surgeon on the staff; and, in the spring of 1761, he embarked with the army for Belleisle, to which fortunate event we owe so many improvements in military surgery, he being one among the many who began to be dissatisfied with the cruel practice of those days.

After the peace, in 1768, Mr. Hunter returned to England, and had nothing to depend on but his half pay; however, he settled in London, and taught practical anatomy and operative surgery for several winters in Golden-square, and afterwards built a house at a place called Earl's Court, near Brompton, to which he frequently retired. After some years, he settled in Jermyn-street, from which he removed, after being chosen principal surgeon at St. George's-hospital, and was besides become a Fellow of the Royal Society. About 1772, he made a very important discovery on the digestion of the stomach, which he communicated to Sir John Pringle. In July 1771, he married Miss Home, sister to Sir Everard Home. Soon after this, Mr. Hunter published his first "Essay on the Teeth." In 1775, his lectures were first given on the terms of other teachers: in the next year, he produced a paper before the Royal Society, containing "Proposals for the recovery of persons apparently drowned," and in the same year he was made surgeon extraordinary to his majesty; and, in 1778, he published the second part of his Treatise on the Teeth, and a paper on the Heat of Animals and Vegetables, in the Philosophical Transactions, which he had before made the vehicle of some other communications. In 1783, Mr. Hunter was chosen a member of the Royal Society of Medicine and Royal Academy of Surgery, in Paris.

Other honours, for which here is no room for detail, were showered progressively upon him, till his sudden death in 1793, which occurred in St. George's-hospital, just after he had attended his professional duty. This appears to have been occasioned by an extreme degree of irritability, which he had been endeavouring to repress, joined to an organic indisposition, to which he had long been subject. Sir Everard Home remarks of his character, "that his disposition was candid, and free from reserve even to a fault. He hated deceit, and was above every kind of artifice." He undoubtedly possessed virtues, which, though sometimes obscured by ill health and human infirmities, were cultivated to the last; whilst nothing ever lessened his ardour in acquiring, or his readiness in imparting, useful knowledge.





## EARL OF MORTON.

JAMES DOUGLAS, the Regent of Scotland, was the second son of Sir George Douglas, of Pinky, and brother to Archibald, Earl of Angus. He was at first educated in a manner suitable to his rank ; but, upon his father being obliged to retire into England, his education was wholly neglected. In fact, the resentment of James V. against his father obliged the son, for a time, to conceal himself in the north, under the name of Innes. But, after the restoration of his father and his relatives to favour, Mr. Douglas appeared under his proper character, and had the honour as well as the estate settled upon him, and married the Lady Mary Douglas, second daughter of James Earl of Morton. In 1544, he defended the castle of Dalkeith till after the battle of Pinky, when, being obliged to surrender it, he was carried prisoner to England ; but, upon his return home, he was again obliged to retire till the year 1553, when, his father dying, he came to the title and full possession of the earldom of Morton, and was one of the first peers who exerted themselves in supporting the Reformation and preserving the liberties of the kingdom during the regency of the Queen Mother. The French, by the assistance of the English, being expelled from Scotland, with the Earl of Glencairn, he was sent ambassador to England to return thanks to Queen Elizabeth.

In 1561, upon Queen Mary's return from France, he was appointed one of the privy council, and in 1563 lord high chancellor, which post he held two years, till he was forced to fly into England, on account of the part he had taken in the death of David Rizzio, her Majesty's French secretary. Through Earl Bothwell, his pardon was soon procured, though he refused to join with that nobleman in murdering the King, which he was assured would be agreeable to the Queen, unless he had an order under her Majesty's own hand ; and was actually at the distance of twenty miles from the place where that shocking tragedy was acted. After Bothwell married Mary, Morton associated with others of the nobility for the preservation of the young prince ; and, upon her Majesty's resignation of the government, was restored to his post of lord high chancellor ; and, in 1578, appointed one of the commissioners for the King of Scots, to treat with Queen Elizabeth's deputies concerning the reasons for deposing Mary.

Upon the death of the Earl of Mar, in November 1572, Morton was elected Regent ; and, having defeated all his enemies, settled a profound peace at home, and contracted a strict alliance with England, he seemed to have secured the good will of the whole nation. The good opinion, however, thus obtained, he lost by his interposition with the Scottish clergy, whom he persuaded to resign to him the third of their livings. This, only a part of his scheme for obtaining wealth, drew upon him considerable ill will, and he resigned the Regency in 1578 ; after which, being divested of power, his enemies, who had plotted his destruction, pursued it with relentless fury. He was charged with a secret correspondence with Queen Elizabeth, and even committed to prison for having been accessory to the murder of the young King's father. He then confessed that, even if he had had the Queen's hand-writing to authorize his participation in that murder, he would not have joined in it, but abandon Scotland till the return of better times. He owned he knew before-hand of the part afterwards taken by his cousin in that affair, and had concealed it. Upon this confession, his sentence was changed from hanging to beheading, which was executed the same day, and his head fixed on the most eminent part of the Tolbooth. Though of a low stature, he had a graceful person, and possessed singular courage, of which he gave many proofs ; though too much addicted to sensual pleasures.





## WILLIAM CECIL.

THIS bright ornament of the age of Elizabeth was the son of Richard Cecil, Esq. of Burghley, in the county of Northampton, master of the robes in the reign of Henry VIII. The first rudiments of his education he received at the grammar-schools of Grantham and Stamford, and, as he discovered an ardent thirst for knowledge, his father determined to qualify him for the law; being sent to St. John's college, Cambridge, his genius and application acquired him considerable reputation. Having in his nineteenth year completed his university education, he was removed to Gray's inn, London, where his proficiency in the law was unusually rapid. In the latter part of the reign of Henry VIII. Mr. Cecil's dispute with two priests, chaplains to O'Neale, an Irish chief, having come to the ears of his majesty, his father was directed to find a place for him at court; but, no vacancy then occurring, the reversion of the Custos Brevium office, in the Common Pleas, was conferred upon him. About this time he married Mary, the sister of Sir John Cheke, by whom he had his first son Thomas: she dying in less than two years after her marriage, he married Mildred, daughter of Sir Anthony Cooke, one of the tutors of Edward VI. Upon the accession of that prince he was made master of the requests: attending the Duke of Somerset into Scotland, he owed his life to a generous friend, whose arm was shattered to pieces in pushing Mr. Cecil out of the level of a cannon shot.

In 1548, he was advanced to the office of secretary of state; but, a party being formed against the protector in the following year, he was committed to the tower, and remained there three months. To recompense him for this transient disgrace, his majesty, soon after his release, conferred upon him the honour of knighthood, and, in October 1551, he was sworn of the privy council.

In 1553, he undertook the liquidation of the crown debts, for which service he was created chancellor of the order of the garter. At the council board, he strenuously opposed the proposal for changing the succession in favour of Lady Jane Grey, which, with other acts of discretion, paved the way to his future advancement, as Mary soon after her accession granted him a general pardon—and had such confidence in his integrity, though an avowed protestant, that she sent him to Brussels, with Lord Paget, to bring over Cardinal Pole. When Elizabeth ascended the throne, for his tried services she made him secretary of state and a privy counsellor. A conference which he proposed with the old and new bishops, produced the form of worship ever since established in the church of England. He next succeeded in remedying the abuses in the currency of the realm. Cecil's influence increasing, the queen conferred upon him the dignity of a peer, by the title of Baron Burghley. Naturally watchful over Mary Queen of Scots, all the intrigues of her party were discovered by his vigilance and zeal. At length, after a long and gradual decline of his health, and much suffering from the gout, he expired at his house, now Exeter-change, in the Strand, on the 4th of August 1598.

“He was the oldest, the gravest, and the greatest, statesman of Christendom.—He was rather well proportioned than tall, very straight and upright of body and legs; and, until age and his infirmity of the gout surprised him, very active and nimble of body.—He was a man of extraordinary worth and abilities, not to mention his venerable presence and aspect; which had such commanding sweetness in them, he was so formed by nature, and so polished by education, that for all the qualities of a statesman, adorned with all the virtues of a private man and a Christian, he had no superior.”





*Holl. sculp.*

## WILLIAM WICKHAM.

THIS celebrated Bishop of Winchester, and lord high chancellor of England, was the son of John Perot, according to some, or of John Long, according to others, by Sybil, daughter of John Bowde. He was born at Wickham, in Hampshire, in the year 1324, and educated first at Winchester, and afterwards in the University of Oxford, at the expense of Nicholas Udall, or Uvedale, a gentleman, who esteemed him on account of his genius and disposition. At Oxford, he studied logic, arithmetic, and the French language, but especially the civil and canon laws.—When his patron Udall was appointed constable of Winchester-castle, an office of great trust in those days, and the King's lieutenant in Hampshire, he took young Wickham to be his secretary before he had resided at the university six years. His abilities, at length, caused him to be engaged entirely in the service of Edendon, bishop of Winchester, and by which means he also became known to Edward III. who made him surveyor of his buildings at Dover, Windsor, and other places.

Entering into holy orders, in 1361, he became rector of St. Martin's, London; then dean of St. Martin's-le-Grand; and archdeacon successively of Lincoln, Northampton, and Buckingham: he had also twelve prebends in several churches, and a great number of benefices. He was promoted likewise to the office of secretary, keeper of the privy seal, and treasurer of the King's revenues in France, and in 1367 was advanced to the see of Winchester, and soon after made lord chancellor of England. After enjoying the most flattering prosperity and the King's favour for several years, he was accused, by John of Gaunt, his great enemy, of embezzling the King's treasures, and for this mismanagement was prosecuted in the King's-Bench, when Sir William Skipwith, chief justice, procured a verdict against him: his temporalities were consequently seized, and given to the young Prince of Wales, and himself forbidden to come within twenty miles of the court.

These proceedings, it is supposed, were carried on against the bishop, in order to furnish a pretext for coming to parliament for a subsidy; but, when they and the convocation met, the clergy refused to enter into any debate whatever till the bishop should be present. This being granted, after two years' trouble, and the loss of ten thousand marks, by the intercession of Alice Pierce, the King's favourite, he was restored to his temporalities. After the death of this King, the Duke of Lancaster's attempts to revive some of the old charges against the bishop, produced no kind of effect. Much of this nobleman's antipathy to such eminent churchmen as Wickham, arose from his attachment to the principles of the reformation. Wickham passed the rest of his days in tranquillity; he began his new college at Oxford in March 1379, and finished it in 1386. Its endowment was not less noble than the structure, there being provision made for a warden, seventy fellows, besides chaplains, organists, choristers, and college servants, amounting in all to one hundred and thirty-five. He built almost all the body of the church of Winchester, from the choir west-ward; he bestowed twenty thousand marks in the reparation of his episcopal houses; he forgave his tenants a large sum; and kept four and twenty poor people continually in his house; and, previous to the building of his college, he had maintained fifty scholars for the space of seven years.

At his death, he bequeathed legacies to the value of 6270*l.*; left ready money to pay them; and one hundred pounds per annum in land to his heir, and all his houses magnificently. He died September 20th, 1404, at the age of 80, and lies interred under the monument erected in his own cathedral.





## PHILIP DODDRIDGE.

THIS eminent non-conformist divine and tutor, was the son of a respectable tradesman in London, where he was born in 1702. The early part of his education he received at different private schools in the metropolis; and at St. Alban's, he fortunately obtained the acquaintance of Mr. afterwards Dr. Samuel Clark, the dissenting minister of the place. Mr. Doddridge, being left an orphan at thirteen, and soon after losing the whole of the property left him, was liberally supplied by this gentleman with the means of continuing his classical studies.

In 1719, he was placed under Mr. Jennings, the keeper of an academy for dissenting ministers, at Kibworth, in Leicestershire, and in 1722 he commenced occasional preacher, but still continued his studies under Mr. Jennings, who had removed from Kibworth to Hinckley: here he was invited to settle by more than one congregation. He was afterwards engaged at Kibworth. In 1729, he opened his academy at Harborough, but had not been there many months, when a considerable vacancy took place in a congregation at Northampton, who had long admired him as a preacher. Here, after some hesitation as to the acceptance of it, he was ordained, and here he continued upwards of twenty years.

In 1730, he entered into a matrimonial connection with a lady, whose piety, prudence, and affection, contributed to lighten the toil of the arduous life in which he had engaged. During twenty years whilst he remained a tutor, he had about 200 young men under his care, of whom 120 entered into the ministry. The excellence of his labours was not confined to his ministry, as during the course of his active life he published and prepared for the press a variety of works, which have entitled him to no small reputation as an author. In 1736, the university of Aberdeen conferred upon him the degree of doctor in divinity. "The Rise and Progress of Religion in the Soul," Dr. Doddridge was engaged to write at the importunate request of Dr. Watts, who had formed a plan for a similar performance; but was prevented by his infirmities from completing it.

In the year 1748, appeared the third volume of his great work, "The Family Expositor;" and also "The Expository Works and other remains of Archbishop Leighton," which were revised by Dr. Doddridge; and, together with his translation of the Archbishop's Latin Prelections, published at Edinburgh in two volumes. A frame originally delicate, at length became imperceptibly impaired from application, and his health declined gradually until July 1751, when he was obliged to retire from his public services to the house of his friend Mr. Orton, at Shrewsbury. From England, he was induced to make a voyage to Lisbon; but his case was hopeless, and he died on the 26th of October 1751. Dr. Doddridge possessed a quick conception, a lively fancy, and a remarkable strength of memory, to which were added an invincible resolution and perseverance in the prosecution of his studies. His mind was of course possessed of a rich fund of learning. As a preacher, he was much esteemed and very popular: he was generally perspicuous in his method; correct and elegant, but simple, in his language; and his manner of delivery was distinguished by energy, a pleasing variety of modulation, and a pleasing pathos.—Of his moral and religious character, it is not easy to speak in terms too high. His piety was ardent, unaffected, and cheerful. On a view of his whole life, we may without hesitation subscribe to the opinion of Dr. Kippis, that "Dr. Doddridge was not only a great man, but one of the most excellent Christians, and Christian ministers, that ever existed."





## THOMAS HOWARD, THIRD DUKE OF NORFOLK.

THIS nobleman was grandson of Thomas, the second Duke, lord high treasurer in the reign of Henry VIII. and son of Henry Surrey, a nobleman eminent for his genius and learning, being an excellent poet, &c. Thomas, his son, was born about the year 1536, and, at the death of his grandfather in 1554, succeeded to his title as Duke of Norfolk, and was the same year successfully employed in subduing the insurgents under Sir Thomas Wyatt. After the death of Mary, and Queen Elizabeth's succession, he was made knight of the garter. In February 1559-60, he concluded the treaty of Berwick between her Majesty and the confederate Scots. Assisting them in the May following, Leith was surrendered to him by the treaty of Edinburgh. In 1568, the Duke was appointed one of the commissioners at York for hearing the cause of Mary Queen of Scots; but, having encouraged the proposals made to him by the Bishop of Ross, the Earl of Murray, Sir Nicholas Throckmorton, and the Earl of Leicester, for marrying her, he of course fell under the displeasure of Elizabeth, who commanded him, upon his allegiance, to desist from his intention. The Duke made her Majesty a solemn promise of obedience; but at the same time made use of some observations upon his wealth, by no means pleasing to the Queen. Finding Leicester alienated from him, and the greatest part of the nobility cold and regardless of him, he left the court without leave, intending to reside at Norwich; but, returning soon after to London, he was again examined concerning the marriage; when, notwithstanding his submissive letters to the Queen, and his confessing most of the articles exhibited against him, he was committed to the Tower.

The year following, he was released and suffered to retire to the Charter-house, then his town residence, under the custody of Sir Henry Nevill; engaging, in writing, not to concern himself farther in the marriage without the Queen's permission. Secretary Cecil wisely pressed him to marry some other person, and thus remove all suspicion, but without effect; for, in 1571, he was again detected in prosecuting the design of marrying the Queen of Scots, by means of a packet of letters sent from Ridolpho, her agent, to the Bishop of Ross. Again prevaricating in his examinations, on the 16th of January 1572, he was brought to trial at Westminster-Hall, and found guilty of the charges preferred against him of traitorously consulting to depose the Queen, &c.

At his death on the scaffold, on Tower Hill, on the 2d of June, following, he acknowledged he had been justly condemned by his peers, but denied his attachment to popery. The regret at his execution was increased by the consideration of his noble presence and greatness, his affability and munificence; and by the remembrance, that his father, at the same place, had experienced the same fate five-and-twenty years before. So greatly was he beloved by his brother nobles, that the lord high steward shed tears when he pronounced the fatal sentence, and the peers who condemned him procured a suspension of his fate for five months: but, as Mary, or her friends, during this period made fresh attempts to take off Elizabeth, the parliament found it absolutely expedient to have Norfolk's sentence carried into execution, in order that Mary herself might be proceeded against, if necessary. Elizabeth still shewed no inclination to proceed to violent measures against her, during the course of fifteen years. In fact, she relied so entirely upon the vigilance and policy of Burghley, that she gave herself little or no concern about the captive princess, till Babington's conspiracy was detected in the year 1586.





## WILLIAM CURTIS.

THIS respectable botanist was the son of a tanner, at Alton, in Hampshire. At an early age, he was sent to a grammar-school at Burford, in Oxfordshire, where he first conceived a taste for the study of botany and natural history. All his pocket money he devoted to the purchase of books of that kind, and in the time of vacation he made friends with a man of the name of Legg, in inferior circumstances, but who had a great knowledge of indigenous plants and insects. In the part of his father's garden allotted to him, young Curtis collected, what to the vulgar eye appeared to be weeds, and he then noticed the insects which fed upon and inhabited the several plants. His father, conceiving that botany was connected with medicine, mentioned his son's turn to his grandfather, an apothecary, established among the Quakers at Alton, who gladly received the lad, but reprobated his love for weeds and insects, and endeavoured to turn his mind to the acquisition of medical science.

Finding nothing could change, what was esteemed the wrong bias in the youth, it was determined to fix him in London, and he was accordingly placed with George Vaux, of Pudding-Lane, where, remaining but a short time, he went to one Thomas Talwin, in Gracechurch-Street, near the monument, who no sooner discovered young Curtis's disposition, than he reprobated it in the strongest terms; for, opening the youth's *scrutoire*, he found "for a hedge-nettle engraving, three guineas." Fortunately, his attention to medical lectures was now so much noticed by Dr. George Fordyce and Mr. Else, that, the good opinion of Mr. Talwin being recovered, he, dying soon after, left young Curtis the business. In 1783, he gave the public a complete history of the brown-tailed moth. His subsequent publication of his "*Fundamenta Entomologiæ*; or, Elements of Entomology," laid the superstructure of his "*Flora Londinensis*." Mr. Hudson, the well-known author of the "*Flora Anglica*," was the friend and admirer of Mr. Curtis, and he gave up in his favour the appointment of demonstrator of plants to the company of Apothecaries. Curtis, after this, wishing to excel all his predecessors, instituted lectures on the science of botany, and also established a public garden at Lambeth Marsh. To forward the publication of the "*Flora Londinensis*," Dr. Lettsom, the well-known philanthropist, assisted Mr. Curtis with no less a sum than five hundred pounds, without security. Mr. Curtis also published "*A Key to the Linnæan System, on a quarto plate*," "*A full Explanation of the Sexual System, the Classes and Orders, illustrated by several plates*;" also an admirable Dissertation on Grasses, and a small tract on the "*Crambe Maritima, or Sea Kale*."

He afterwards quitted Lambeth Marsh, to settle at Queen's Elms, Brompton, merely to get rid of the smoke of London, which, except when the wind blew from the south, constantly enveloped his plants. The English Eden, which he preferred to his former situation, was just a mile and a half distant from Hyde Park. For many years he enjoyed his favourite pursuit; but he at length felt his constitution undermined, not by age, but by disappointed expectations; and he gave up his lecturing and his herbarizations, in which he was frequently accompanied by the present Dr. Thornton. He was patient of bodily labour; and bread and cheese, beer or eggs, were his usual repast. He was studious not to give offence, and truth was his delight. He may be said to have been the father of English botany, and was the first to impress a taste for that science on the public mind. His garden was the only public thing of the sort in England. His person was rather short and thick built; his dress was always uncommonly neat; his face full and ruddy, bespeaking benevolence; and, although it be doubted whether he died a Quaker, he was a sincere believer in Christianity, a faithful husband, an affectionate and tender father. He died on the 7th of July 1799, aged about 53 years.





## IRETON.

THIS eminent commander and statesman of the parliament party, in the civil wars of Charles I. was descended from a good family, and brought up to the law ; but, when an appeal was made to the sword, Mr. Henry Ireton joined the parliament's army, and by his abilities, with the interest of Cromwell, whose daughter Bridget he married, rose to the post of commissary-general. He commanded the left wing of the battle of Naseby, which, notwithstanding all his efforts, was broken by the furious charge of Prince Rupert. Ireton, though wounded and made prisoner, soon recovered his liberty, and took part in all those political transactions which brought the parliament entirely under the power of the army, and finally changed the constitution from a monarchy to a republic. His counsels had great influence over his father-in-law, and his education also as a lawyer caused him to be employed in drawing up most of the public papers of his party. He had a principal hand in framing orders for the King's trial, at which he sat as one of the judges. Lucas and Lisle, two eminent royalists, taken prisoners at Colchester, were through his instigation put to death by Fairfax ; notwithstanding they were assured of " fair quarter as prisoners of war." The parliament, it was then said, thought proper to disavow this lenity of their general : however, Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle were shot upon a green spot of ground, near Colchester Castle, and their bodies privately interred.

Ireton accompanied Cromwell to Ireland in 1649, and was in the following year left there by him as lord-deputy. He proceeded with great vigour in reducing the natives to obedience, and in settling the civil affairs of the country. He defeated the Irish in several actions, and never spared any prisoners who appeared to have been concerned in the popish massacre of the protestants in that country, a few years before. Having crowned his military career in the taking of Limerick, he was seized with a pestilential disease in that place, of which he died, in Nov. 1651, sincerely lamented by the republican party, who revered him as a soldier, a statesman, and a saint. He was stern and rigid in his disposition ; but, though military discipline was the instrument he employed, it is thought civil liberty, under the republican form, was his principal object. Hume calls him a memorable personage, much celebrated for his vigilance, industry, capacity, and even for the strict sense of justice in that unlimited command he possessed. He was undoubtedly inflexible in all his purposes.

In gratitude for his public services, the parliament voted an estate of 2000*l.* per annum to his family, and honoured him with a public funeral. His widow afterwards married Lieutenant-general Fleetwood.—The monument erected for him in Westminster-abbey was not suffered to remain ; being taken down after the reformation, and his body taken up and removed.

Sir Philip Warwick says, " that Ireton was a man of blood, and that he expired during the siege of Limerick with that word in his mouth, as in his raving he cried out, " I will have more blood, blood ! " However, he once refused a challenge from Mr. Denzell Holles, afterwards Duke of Newcastle, on account of some rude expressions that had fallen from him in a debate in the House of Commons ; who, insisting that he should go over the water immediately and fight him, Ireton answered, " that his conscience would not suffer him to fight a duel : " upon which, Mr. Holles pulled him by the nose, telling him, " that if his conscience would keep him from giving men satisfaction, it should keep him from provoking them."





## HENRY KIRKE WHITE.

THIS distinguished child of early genius was the son of a butcher, and born at Nottingham, March 21, 1785. His love of reading was apparent almost in his infancy, and before he was seven years of age it became a passion to which every thing else was sacrificed. At seven, he was placed under the Rev. John Blanchard, who at that time kept the best school in Nottingham. Here he learnt writing, arithmetic, and French. At eleven, he one day wrote a separate theme for every boy in his class, consisting of twelve or fourteen. During this time, his father persisting in the idea of bringing him up to his own trade, young Henry was very frequently employed in carrying the butcher's basket, till, upon some difference between his father and his master, he was taken from the school, and placed under a Mr. Shipley, who soon convinced his parents that he was a boy of uncommon talents, which was afterwards amply evinced by the verses he wrote on being confined to school, and in his lampoons upon some of his unskilful teachers.

His mother, about this time, opening a ladies' school, and succeeding beyond her expectation, materially increased Henry's domestic comforts; however, at the age of fourteen, he was placed in a stocking loom, for the purpose of bringing him up in the hosiery trade. His extreme aversion to this line soon appearing, with great exertions on the part of his mother he was put into the office of Messrs. Coldham and Enfield, attorneys, of Nottingham. Being recommended to learn Latin, he now became almost estranged from his family, his meal time and his evenings being wholly devoted to reading. From Latin he proceeded to Greek and Italian, and he had no contemptible knowledge of chemistry; being passionately fond of music, he could play very pleasingly by ear on the piano-forte; he had also a turn for mechanics. Becoming a member of a literary society in Nottingham, he had an opportunity of cultivating the art of speaking, in which he would have excelled, had opportunity offered. Being a correspondent to several Magazines, he obtained medals and other marks of distinction, and became known to various persons of eminence in literature. When he first intended to publish his poems, his manuscript was sent to the Countess of Derby, who returned it with a polite note: at length, the Duchess of Devonshire allowed him to dedicate his poems to her, but, as she probably never opened them when printed, no farther notice was taken of them. Thus, his hopes of being enabled to go to college to qualify himself for the church were damped at an early period: to this may be added, the mortification he experienced from the treatment he received from some of the reviewers.

Having at length obtained admittance at Cambridge, the seeds of a consumption, which had long been ripening within him, began to make an alarming progress. Deafness had prevented him from prosecuting his study of the law. It was in vain that he was pronounced the first man of his year at Cambridge; his life was to pay the forfeit of his last exertions. In vain he came to London to recruit his health; when he returned to college, his mind was worn out. It was the opinion of his medical attendants, that, if he had recovered, his intellects would have been affected. He was delirious when his brother Neville arrived to see him; he knew him only for a few minutes; sunk into a state of torpor, and expired on Sunday, October 18, 1806. Of his powers of mind it is superfluous to speak. Like several other persons of superior parts, he was at one period of his life inclined to deism. His talents and his ultimate belief are best displayed in his *Life and Poems*, published by Robert Southey.





## LORD WILLIAM RUSSEL.

THIS excellent patriot was second son of William, Earl and afterwards Duke of Bedford, by Anne, daughter and heir of Robert Car, Earl of Somerset. In April 1679, he was appointed one of the new council to his Majesty; and in the year following elected member of parliament for the county of Bedford. He very strenuously supported the bill for excluding the Duke of York from the succession to the throne. This bill being passed in the commons, his lordship carried it up to the peers, where its rejection excited such warm expressions on his part against popery, that the court, being disgusted with him and other members, the parliament was prorogued, on the 10th of January, though the King's necessities required him to call another in March following, in which Lord Russel served as knight of the shire for the county of Bedford.

In June 1683, he was accused of being concerned in the Ryehouse Plot; and, being brought to trial at the Old Bailey, on the 13th of July following, the most that was proved against him was his being present where treasonable matter was discoursed upon, though without bearing any part in it, or giving any assent; the whole of which amounted to no more than misprision or concealment of treason. Leaving his case to the jury, they brought in a verdict against him for high treason, upon which he received sentence of death. In a letter which he wrote to the Duke of York, whilst under condemnation, he declared that what he had done, in opposition to his royal highness, did not proceed from any personal ill will or animosity to him, but merely from opinion that it was the best way for preserving the religion established by law; in which if he was mistaken, yet he had acted sincerely, without any ill end in it. He also proposed, upon condition of receiving pardon, to live in any part of the world, and wholly withdraw himself from the affairs of England, unless called upon by his Majesty's orders to serve him. In the same month, he also wrote a letter to the King, to be delivered after his death, asking pardon, and craving that no part of his Majesty's displeasure should fall on his wife and children. He was beheaded in Lincoln's-Inn-Fields on the 21st of July 1683, and died with great piety and resignation. In a paper which he put into the sheriff's hand, he declared that he never had any design against the King's life, or the life of any man whatsoever; and that he never was in any contrivance for altering the government. This paper gave great offence to the court; but it was ascribed to Dr. Gilbert Burnet, who attended Lord Russel. The doctor cleared himself from this charge, which vindication of his was confirmed by a letter that Lady Russel wrote to the King a few days after his lordship's death, assuring his Majesty that her husband was the real author of the paper delivered to the sheriff. Such, after all, was the sense of the nation, at the period of the Revolution that succeeded, that on the 16th March 1688-9 an act was passed for annulling his lordship's attainder.

The jury that brought Lord Russel in guilty of high treason, were evidently packed for the purpose; and, though the most powerful interest was exerted to save him, it had no effect, as he could not be brought to make an open declaration in favour of the principle of non-resistance. This was what the court anxiously coveted from a man of his family, interest, and character; and would have purchased, even at the high price of foregoing the gratification of their devilish revenge. His firmness in refusing this, and life along with it, ranks him with the first of patriots. It was part of his political creed, "that a free nation, like England, might defend their religion and liberty, when invaded or taken from them, though under pretence or colour of law;" and, in support of this tenet, he suffered death.





## BEAUMONT.

THIS pleasing dramatist, FRANCIS BEAUMONT, the coadjutor of Fletcher, and cotemporary with Jonson, was descended from an antient family at Grace Dieu, in Leicestershire, which was also the place of his birth. His grandfather, John Beaumont, was Master of the Rolls; and his father, Francis, one of the judges of the Court of Common Pleas in the reign of Elizabeth. His elder brother, Sir John Beaumont, after having followed the profession of the law for some time, retired from it, upon his marriage with a lady of considerable fortune: he then became no inconsiderable versifier, as appears from some lines in praise of his poems by Ben Jonson. Beaumont, the dramatist, was educated at Cambridge, and removed thence to the inner Temple; but his poetic genius prevailing, he also quitted his legal studies; and to the plays, written jointly by him and Fletcher, fifty-three in number, it is supposed that he stood indebted for his subsistence during a life probably spent in gaiety and dissipation, which terminated before he had fully completed his thirtieth year: this occurred in March 1615. He left one daughter, Frances Beaumont, who died in Leicestershire, in 1700. This lady had in her possession several poems composed by her father; but they were lost at sea in her passage from Ireland, where she had lived for some time in the Duke of Ormond's family.

Besides the plays, above noticed, he wrote a little dramatic piece, entitled, "A Masque of Gray's-Inn Gentlemen," and other poems, printed together in 1653, in 8vo. He was esteemed so good a judge of dramatic compositions, that even the haughty Jonson submitted his writings to his correction, and it is thought was much indebted to him for the contrivance of his plots. The esteem which Jonson felt for Beaumont has been inferred, from the following lines:

"How do I love thee, Beaumont, and thy Muse,  
That unto me dost such religion use!  
How do I fear myself, that am not worth  
The least indulgent thought thy pen drops forth,  
At once thou mak'st me happy and unmakest,  
And, giving largely to me, more than tak'st.  
What fate is mine that so itself bereaves?  
What art is thine that so thy friend deceives?  
When even there, where most thou praisest me  
For writing better, I must envy thee!"

Beaumont lies buried in the entrance of St. Benedict's Chapel, in Westminster Abbey. No epitaph is inscribed on his tomb, but two have been written. One of these is by his eldest brother, Sir John Beaumont; the other, by Bishop Corbet. They are preserved in their respective works, but have little to recommend.

The plays in which Beaumont was jointly concerned with Fletcher were so popular, that for a long time they almost engrossed the stage. Dryden affirms, that in his time two of theirs were acted for one of Shakspeare's or Jonson's: their plots are more regular than Shakspeare's; their comedies are gay, and imitated the language of genteel life at that time better than Jonson's. Their tragedies have many poetical beauties and striking incidents and characters. Most of the plays of this dramatic pair run into luxuriance, and require pruning; the language also is sometimes such, that no decent audience would tolerate at this time. Several dramatic authors have made very free use of hints taken from these authors. Several of their plays were published during their lives, and editions of them have since been given in a collective form. Of these, one in ten volumes octavo, corrected by the united labours of Theobald, Sympson, and Seward, appeared in 1751; and another also in ten volumes, but much more correct, was published by Colman, in 1778.





## DR. PRIESTLEY.

THIS eminent philosopher and theologian was born on the 13th of March, old style, 1733, at Field Head, in the parish of Birstall, near Leeds, in the West Riding of Yorkshire. At a grammar school, at Batley, he acquired the rudiments of the Latin, Greek, and Hebrew; and, as his mind was very religiously disposed, he paid particular attention to the latter. With his own consent he was proposed as a member for the Independent Church, to which his family belonged; but the hesitation of his ingenuous mind, in not acknowledging a question as to his personal guilt of Adam's sin, prevented his admission, and eventually led him to doubt all the essential points of the Calvinistic system. At the age of nineteen he entered as a student in divinity, in Dr. Ashworth's academy, at Daventry, and went from thence as assistant preacher to Needham Market, in Suffolk: his mode of delivery, at first extremely unpleasant, shortened his stay here, and he was invited to Nantwich, in Cheshire; where, to supply the deficiencies of a salary of only thirty pounds a year, he was very successful in opening a day-school.

On the death of Dr. Taylor, at Warrington, Dr. Aikin being chosen tutor in his place, Mr. Priestley was invited to succeed the latter gentleman. Here he was in a situation that gave full scope to his literary pursuits and philosophical researches: his first publication was a *Chart of Biography*; here he also composed his *History and Present State of Electricity*. Its reception with the public induced the university of Edinburgh to grant him a diploma, as doctor of laws. After six years' residence at Warrington, he accepted the charge of an opulent congregation at Leeds. His "*View of the Principles and Conduct of the Protestant Dissenters*" distinguished him as no inconsiderable advocate. Whilst he was pursuing his philosophic inquiries into the nature of air and electricity, he had the advantage of personal intercourse with several eminent personages—Dr. Franklin, Bishop Watson, Mr. Canton, and others. He contracted an intimacy with the late Earl of Shelburne, in 1772, soon after he had published his "*History and present State of Discoveries relative to Vision, Light, and Colours*;" and, being invited to superintend his lordship's magnificent library, in the year following, he was his companion on a visit to Paris. Having resided in and near the mansion of his patron seven years, the doctor retired upon a pension, to Birmingham, where he was at a great expense for works calculated to carry on his various experiments; but here, in consequence of a celebration of the anniversary of the fall of the Bastille, the barbarous rioters of July 14, 1791, committed more devastation upon science than any army of Goths, in the burning of his house, at Fair Hill, with his library and complete apparatus of philosophical machines; and afterwards hunted him from house to house, till he took shelter in London with his friend, the Rev. Theophilus Lindsey. After remaining a short time at Hackney, he retired to Northumberland, a town in Pennsylvania.

The doctor's works would alone form a library. In his polemics, particularly with Bishop Horsley, the doctor has been highly censured for too much warmth, sometimes degenerating into acrimony; his talents, however, were generally allowed to be of the first class. He expired on Monday, February 9, 1804, after a gradual decay, the consequence of a severe illness in 1801.

In Dr. Priestley's mental constitution were united ardour and vivacity of intellect, with placidity and mildness of temper: uniformly kind and affectionate, envy itself could never fix a stain on his private conduct, or impeach his integrity. Such was the man who has added one more imperishable name to the illustrious dead of his country.





## COLUMBUS.

THIS great circumnavigator, the original discoverer of America, is generally said to have been born in the year 1442, at Cogureta, a small Genoese village, near Genoa, where his father exercised the profession of a wool-comber. An early inclination for the sea, and great application to nautical studies, induced him to reflect on the structure of the globe; and, from contemplating our hemisphere in maps, he was induced to believe there must necessarily be another, which he determined on attempting to discover. It should be observed, that at the age of fourteen he began his career on that element, which conducted him to so much glory, with a near relative, who commanded a small squadron. At length, in an obstinate engagement off the coast of Portugal, with some Venetian caravels, the vessel, on board of which he served, took fire, together with one of the enemy's ships, to which it was fast grappled. In this dreadful extremity he threw himself into the sea, and laid hold of a floating oar, and by the support of that and his own dexterity in swimming he reached the shore, and saved a life reserved for undertakings calculated for the astonishment of posterity.

Repairing to Lisbon, he married a Portuguese lady; but notwithstanding this, like a good citizen, he first laid his scheme before the senate of Genoa. His countrymen, however, treating him as a mere visionary, he applied to the court of Spain; and Isabella, the Queen of Ferdinand, highly approving the design, notwithstanding the opposition it met with from different quarters, he was furnished with three vessels for the expedition. He commenced his first voyage from old Spain in 1492, and left Gomera on the 6th of September that year. Proceeding westward, he discovered one of the Lucca islands, and in about thirty days anchored in the bay of Guina, or St. Salvador. During this year, he first observed the variation or declination of the magnetic needle from the pole. In 1492 he discovered St. Domingo, which he called Hispaniola.

Returning to Spain, in May 1493, he was graciously received by Ferdinand and Isabella, and was by them nominated grand admiral of the new world. Being furnished with seventeen ships, he again sailed; and, in 1495, discovered Jamaica and the Caribbee islands. In 1498, making another voyage, he discovered Paria, the first place he had seen on the continent. In 1500, though the intrigues of his enemies, he was seized, and sent to Spain in irons; but, after a cruel confinement of four years, was sent to make new discoveries for a cruel and ungrateful people. In 1502, he entered the harbour of the isthmus of Darien, to which he gave the name of the Fine Harbour, or Porto Bello. Having surmounted innumerable hardships by sea and land, he returned to Spain, and died at Valladolid, on the 8th of May 1506.

He died, says Dr. Robertson, with a composure of mind suitable to the magnanimity which distinguished his character, and with sentiments of piety becoming that supreme respect for religion which he manifested in every occurrence of his life. He was buried at Seville: his tomb is before the choir of the cathedral; the monument consists of one stone only, on which are engraven, in the Spanish language, "to Castile and Arragon, Columbus gave another world:" an inscription simple and expressive, the justice of which will be acknowledged by all who peruse the adventures of this eminent but unfortunate man. Columbus was certainly a subject of the republic of Genoa, but neither the time nor place of his birth are known with certainty. To Genoa is usually ascribed the honour of having given him birth; but some writers have mentioned Coconato, in Piedmont, as the place of his nativity.





## BISHOP LATIMER.

THIS eminent martyr in the Christian cause was born at Thurcaston in Leicestershire, about the year 1475. His father was a reputable yeoman, and rented a small farm, upon which, in those times of plenty, he maintained and portioned part of a large family, consisting of one son and six daughters. There was nothing particularly worthy of notice in the juvenile part of Latimer's life ; but his zeal for the Romish Church manifested itself about the year 1500, when, having taken the degree of M.A. at Christ's College, Cambridge, and entered into priest's orders, he was one of the loudest declaimers against the German reformers. At length, his acquaintance with Mr. Thomas Bilney and his more liberal views of the Christian religion induced Latimer to make those inquiries which terminated in his most cordial conviction of his errors, and he became extremely active in propagating the reformed faith every where ; and, inculcating the necessity of a virtuous life in opposition to ritual observances, he made innumerable proselytes. He, however, soon felt the consequence of the change in his religious sentiments, and was, for a long time, the object of ecclesiastical persecution : still, in spite of every obstacle, he became popular, and repeatedly preached at Windsor, before Henry VIII. who was much pleased with his plain and simple manner, and even thanked him for his very free advice. The credit that Latimer gained by his preaching, he maintained by the sanctity of his manners. Nor did he or Mr. Bilney satisfy themselves with acting unexceptionably ; they gave daily instances of piety and benevolence, which malice could not scandalize, nor envy misinterpret.

The first benefice which Latimer enjoyed was procured for him by Cromwell ; and this living being in Wiltshire, he left the court, and discharged his duties in a most conscientious manner. After what was called the 'Six Articles of Religion' had passed both houses, and were justly called 'The Bloody Articles' by the Protestants, Latimer, by Cromwell's recommendation, had been appointed Bishop of Worcester ; he had determined to spend his days in a sequestered life in the country, but was prevented from this by a bruise, occasioned by the fall of a tree ; and, returning to London, was committed to the Tower, on a charge of having spoken against the Six Articles. Having remained here six years, he, with the rest of his Protestant friends, were all set at liberty upon the accession of Edward VI. He was then offered to be replaced in his Bishopric of Worcester ; but, alledging his age, took up his residence with Archbishop Cranmer, and led a very retired life with him at Lambeth. Appointed to preach the Lent Sermons before the King, he attacked the vices of the great without reserve. However, upon the accession of Mary, he was proscribed, and cited before the Catholic Bishops, who, finding they could not drive him out of the country, never rested, till, entrapping him in a mock disputation at Oxford, he was there sentenced to be burnt with Bishop Ridley.

In the course of this pretended disputation, all the arguments used by Cranmer and Ridley, instead of being fairly canvassed, were over-ruled by uproar and tumult, or the insolence of authority. At length, when the time for the burning of Latimer and Ridley arrived, the spectators, seeing these venerable men preparing for death, shed tears profusely. When both the sufferers were fastened to the stake with an iron chain, and a faggot ready kindled was laid at Ridley's feet, Latimer said to him, 'Be of good comfort, Master Ridley, and play the man ; we shall this day light such a candle, by God's grace, in England, as I trust shall never be put out.' After this he quickly expired, apparently without much pain, on the 16th of October 1555.





## HANS HOLBEIN.

THIS eminent painter, it is generally agreed, was born at Basle in 1493, where he learned the rudiments of his art from his father, who was a respectable painter. His superiority soon became distinguished; on which account he was employed in painting the town house of Basle, with a representation of the Saviour's passion. In the Fish Market, he painted a Dance of Peasants; and on the walls of St. Peter's, his famous Dance of Death. The celebrated reformer, Erasmus, was one of his earliest admirers; and an English nobleman, on seeing Holbein's performances at Basle, invited him to England. Holbein, however, was at this time too much attached to voluptuous pleasures, to quit the scene of his early enjoyments.

At length, marrying a wife, who turned out a mere shrew, as he could not bear her reproaches and her constantly reminding him of the consequent miseries to his increasing family, he listened at length to the persuasion of his friends, and, as it is said, literally begged his way to England. Having a recommendatory letter from Erasmus to Sir Thomas More, the Lord Chancellor of England, he was immediately received into his house, and was employed there between two and three years. Sir Thomas having now sufficiently enriched his own apartments, he determined to introduce the painter to the Monarch; and having previously invited his Majesty to an entertainment, and hung up all Holbein's pieces in the best order and in the best light in the great hall, the King, on his entrance, was so enraptured at the sight, that he eagerly inquired "whether such an artist was now alive, and to be procured for money?" when Sir Thomas presented Hans Holbein. His Majesty directly took the artist under his protection, brought him into notice with the nobility, and conferred many favours upon him.

Holbein was sent into Flanders by Henry VIII. to draw the picture of the Duchess Dowager of Milan, who had been recommended to Henry as a wife. His subsequent commission to Lady Anne Cleves is said to have caused Henry to send for the original. Henry's disgust with her afterwards produced the fall of Cromwell; but the painter retained his favour at court. A story is told of Holbein throwing a nobleman down stairs, who intruded upon him while he was painting a lady in secret, and of his obtaining his pardon for the offence from the King, who observed that of seven peasants he could make as many lords, but not one Holbein. Whatever be the truth of this, it is observed, "he was a man of very boisterous manners." Of Holbein's very numerous works, the fullest catalogue is given by Mr. Walpole. His large pieces in England are a picture in Surgeon's Hall of Henry VIII. granting the charter to the company; and another in the hall of Bridewell, representing Edward VI. presenting to the lord mayor of London his charter of donation of Bridewell for an hospital. He painted two large pieces in distemper for the Easterling merchants in London, the subjects of which were the triumphs of riches and poverty. The pictures have perished, but drawings of them are preserved, which display great powers of fancy and expression. The rest of his works, mostly portraits, are to be found in a variety of collections, where they are highly valued, and many of them have been engraved.

This great genius died of the plague, which raged in London in the year 1554, at his apartments in Whitehall, where he resided after the King became his patron. Holbein's portraits possess great truth; a lively and elevated imagination appears in his compositions, and a fine finish distinguishes his execution. His colouring is vigorous, his flesh vivid, and his figures have a relief which agreeably seduces the eye; his drapery, however, has been censured as betraying great negligence.





## DR. WOLCOTT.

THIS facetious writer, commonly known by the name of Peter Pindar, was born at Dodbrook, in Devonshire, in the year 1737; his parents being respectable, he was educated at the grammar school at Kingsbridge, and hence was sent to France, to finish his education. On his return he was taken apprentice by an unmarried uncle, a surgeon and apothecary, at Fowey, in Cornwall. Having a very early taste for drawing and versification, the pencil and the pen divided his leisure hours. Coming to London, on the expiration of his apprenticeship, he continued his medical studies in the hospitals; but when Sir William Trelawney, a distant relative of the family, was appointed governor of Jamaica in 1766, he took Mr. Wolcott out with him as his physician. At what period the latter obtained the degree of M.D. is not quite clear; however, he had not been long in Jamaica before his patron, seeming to think him equally as fit for the cure of souls as of bodies, recommended him to officiate as rector of St. Anne's Church, and afterwards gave him the living of Vere, where Peter placed a curate, residing himself at the government house, in Spanish Town. After the decease of Sir William Trelawney, he returned home and practised as a physician at Truro, where a legacy of 2000*l.* left him by his old master and uncle, with the profits of his profession, might have enabled him to have lived respectably; but the indulgence of his satirical vein was preferred to every other consideration. A circumstance that marked this period was his discovery of the genius of young Opie, the painter, while labouring, it is said, in a saw-pit: his shining talents soon released him from the menial services in which he was employed by Pindar.

The hostility of the latter to the King was for many years rancorous in the extreme: Peter, it seems, never forgave any one who differed with him. His first publication, under the signature of Peter Pindar, was the "Epistle to those literary Colossusses, the Reviewers." Between 1782 and 1786, the "Lyric Odes to the Royal Academicians" appeared, and the author quitted Truro, and threw himself upon London as a writer by profession. In the poem called "Peter's Pension," (a solemn epistle to a sublime personage, between jest and earnest,) as he expressed his willingness to be pensioned, it was soon after offered and accepted; but with this condition on his part, "that he should write no praise, but would muzzle his muse." Things went on upon this footing two quarters, when, the secretary of the treasury hinting that active co-operation was expected, the satirist was offended, and he hastily withdrew, refusing to take the pension, of which one half year, amounting to 100*l.* was then due. In justice to the poet, it must be acknowledged, that subsequently to the melancholy events of 1788-9, he never unbridled the licentiousness of his muse upon his sovereign.

Pindar was no friend to the French Revolution; and about 1792 he attacked Tom Paine with the strong force of his ridicule. By a law-suit with his booksellers, which was compromised, it appeared they allowed him 250*l.* a year for the copyright of his works. With public and private persons, whom he had generally made his enemies, he was almost continually embroiled; and, when upwards of 70, was prosecuted for attempting criminal conversation with the young wife of a tradesman he employed.

Latterly, brandy was supposed to be his principal beverage; and, after being long subjected to a decay of sight and the use of his limbs, he died on the 13th of January, 1819. His remains, agreeably to his request, were deposited in a vault at St. Paul's, Covent Garden, as near as possible to those of the author of Hudibras.





## BLACKETT.

THIS early genius, the offspring of parents in very humble life, at Tunstall, in Yorkshire, was born there, in 1786. Having been instructed in reading, writing, and arithmetic, at eleven years of age his brother, a ladies' shoemaker, in London, took him as an apprentice upon very liberal terms. Being a man that had a decent collection of books, before young Blackett was fifteen he had read Josephus, Eusebius's Ecclesiastical History, Fox's Martyrs, and a number of others.

At length, a juvenile friend solicited his company to Drury-lane theatre, to see Mr. Kemble in Richard the Third, when he says, "the Muse of Shakspeare, with a single glance, banished the ideas of Jerusalem's wars, which memory had carefully collected; and awakened a desire in his breast to become acquainted with no other language than that of nature." To effect this, he frequently deprived himself of rest, till his seven years' apprenticeship expired. After this he became a lodger to his brother, and, marrying, lived happily for three years, when his wife died of a consumption, leaving him an infant child, and in the midst of domestic embarrassments which laid him under the necessity of parting with every thing. About the year 1809, the genius and situation of Joseph Blackett became known to the late Richard Cumberland, Esq. Mr. Capel Lofft, and others, who could not help observing the striking similarity between Joseph Blackett and Robert Bloomfield, both having been ladies' shoemakers, fostered by their brothers, and favourites of Parnassus.

The late Mr. Pratt having undertaken to procure subscribers for publishing Blackett's productions, specimens of his poetical abilities were put forth in a private edition, for limited circulation, in the early part of 1810, and each copy was accompanied with a printed address. The object was to relieve Mr. Blackett from the misfortunes which had pressed so hard on his constitution, that, in the opinion of some medical gentlemen, it demanded an entire relaxation from his sedentary employment. The contributions procured by these specimens of his poetry and Mr. Blackett's friends, among whom were many of the first names in the kingdom, were considerable, and probably were as much owing to the excellence of his moral character, as to his superior abilities. Unhappily, the cold hand of death prematurely quenched that blaze of intellect which had been exhibited under so many depressions of fortune.

Upon our poet, the pure breezes of the "Sister hills," and those of the delightful banks of the Thames, from Chelsea to Kingston, were tried in vain. He was finally advised to have recourse to his native air, in Yorkshire, where the Rev. Mr. Wrangham was one of his most active patrons, but without effect; neither diet nor delicacies could relieve the shivering limbs, the feverish pulse, the unwholesome flush of the face, or the life-dissolving nocturnal perspirations. Writing to a friend, he says, "My fever is past enduring; my hands are so hot, that, if I steep them in water, it shortly turns warm:" he lingered till August 1810, when the Rev. Mr. Wallis, of Seaham, observed, "he departed this life, like one falling asleep, in full reliance on his Redeemer." He was hurried in the church-yard there, on the spot chosen by one of Lady Milhanke's family, according to his own request, with a simple inscription, taken from his *Reflections at Midnight*. A plain monument bearing this has been erected over his grave. His works were published, in 1811, under the title of *The Remains of Joseph Blackett*, consisting of Poems, Dramatic Sketches, The Times, an ode, and a Memoir of his Life; by Mr. Pratt: in two volumes.





## SIR HUGH MYDDELTON.

THIS public-spirited character was a native of Denbigh, in North Wales, and afterwards became a goldsmith of London. The early part of the life of this useful man is certainly involved in much obscurity. He was one among the many persons who, no doubt, had long been convinced how badly London had been supplied with water, notwithstanding its numerous wells and conduits, and its situation upon the Thames. In consequence of the deficiency of this most useful element, three acts of parliament were obtained, granting the citizens full liberty to bring a river from any part of Middlesex or Hertfordshire. But such was the want of public spirit, and probably the ignorance of hydraulics, that after much deliberation, the project was laid aside as impracticable, until Mr. Myddelton undertook it.

Having accurately surveyed the two counties, he fixed upon a spring in the parish of Amwell, and another near the town of Ware, both distant about twenty miles from London. This work, which he commenced on the 20th of September 1608, he completed on the 29th of September 1613. It was of course carried on through various soils, some ouzy and muddy, others calcareous and rocky; and, besides, it was found necessary to construct many bridges, and to make a number of drains to carry off land-springs and common sewers; and from the necessity of various detours, though Amwell is only twenty miles from London, the river was brought over an extent of ground measuring thirty-eight miles, three quarters, and sixteen poles. Throughout the whole of this arduous undertaking, Mr. Myddelton, in common with all men of enterprize, had to struggle with the envy and the prejudices of all the uninformed, and to contend with incessant objections and complaints, arising from animosity and the inconveniences occasioned to some persons through whose grounds the river was brought. Notwithstanding these, his perseverance enabled him to bring it to Enfield, when, his finances being quite exhausted, he was compelled to solicit the assistance of the city. But the city of London, at that time of day, refused to have any concern in the business. James the First, however, being better advised, agreed to pay a moiety of the entire concern. This noble undertaking was thus happily completed, and on Michaelmas day 1613, the water was admitted into the reservoir at Islington, with much pomp and parade, the lord mayor and the principal citizens attending to witness this happy event.—Mr. Myddelton and his colleagues having been incorporated by the name of the governors and company of the new river brought from Chadwell and Amwell to London, dividends were payable, though none was made till 1633.—But though Sir Hugh was a loser in money, it has been observed he was a gainer in honour. King James made him a knight, and then a baronet.

In November 1636, Charles I. gave up the royal moiety, in consideration of a fee farm rent of 500*l.* a year. The exact time and place of the death of Sir Hugh are unknown; but he bequeathed, what has since proved a valuable share in the river, to the poor of the goldsmiths' company. So little was the benefit of this undertaking apprehended, that for above thirty years the seventy-two shares into which it was divided netted only five pounds a piece; each of these was sold originally for 100*l.*; they have since fetched 10,000*l.* each.

"No one," says Mr. Pennant, "ought to be ignorant that this unspeakable benefit is owing to a Welshman." The name of Myddelton, however, ought to be transmitted with honour and gratitude to posterity, as much as those of the builders of the famous aqueducts in antient Rome. A portrait of Sir Hugh is preserved in goldsmiths'-hall.





## LA FONTAINE.

JOHN DE LA FONTAINE, one of the most original geniuses of the age, was born at Château Thierry in 1621. His father was an overseer of the water and forests. It is supposed that he received the rudiments of his education at Rheims. At the age of 19, he placed himself under the fathers of the oratory: his poetic talent remained dormant till the age of twenty-two, when, hearing a person read one of the Odes of Malherbe, the impression was such, that he began immediately to study that author. His first essays in verse were confided to a relative, who encouraged him and directed him to the study of the best Latin, French, and Italian, writers. Of the latter, he particularly relished Rabelais, and chose him as a model for his style. He was mild, gentle, credulous, and void of envy or ambition; but totally unfit for the common concerns of life. At the persuasion of his family, he married; and the pleasant humour of his wife being conformable to his own, it is said he never wrote without consulting her. Incapable of a lasting attachment, it seems he quitted her, and was introduced to the capital by the Duchess of Bouillon. Fouquet, that munificent patron of letters, admitted him at his house; but, after the death of his patron, Madame de Sabliere was his best friend, as she took him into her house, and freed him from those domestic cares for which he was so little calculated. He was in habits of intimacy with the first wits of Paris, Boileau, Moliere, Racine, Chapelle, &c. and was so generally beloved for the simple honesty and candour of his character, that the usual appellation given him was that of *le bon homme*. He did not shine in conversation, and was usually silent in company, unless when among his most intimate friends. From the capital, where he was fixed by the Literary Society of Paris, he was accustomed every year to pay a visit to his wife in the month of September, on which occasion he took with him one or more of his friends. At these visits too, he seldom failed to get rid of part of his property; and, as he never gave a lease of a house or renewed that of a farm, it is supposed his estate fell into great disorder. He had one son, whom, at the age of fourteen, he placed under M. de Harlay; and, after a long absence, met the youth at a house to which both were invited, without knowing him. When he was told, after conversing with him, that that person was his son, "Ah," said he calmly, "I am very glad of it." Fontaine, however, was no favourite with Louis XIV. and was the only eminent writer of his time who did not partake of his bounty. When he was elected a member of the French Academy, the king hesitated in confirming the nomination. At length, that body having gratified him with electing Boileau, whom they did not like, the king gave his consent to both elections.

Fontaine behaved with the greatest respect to the female sex, never indulged himself in any thing like *double entendre*, and even gave excellent advice to mothers as to the education and conduct of their daughters. Still, his Tales, which are scarcely admitted into the more decent libraries, have been edited with all the decorations of sculpture. Of his Fables, innumerable editions have been published; the best editions of his Tales are those of Amsterdam 1685, and Paris 1762; and a magnificent edition of the Fables was edited in 1759, in which each fable is decorated with a plate, executed with zoölogical precision. He also wrote *Les Amours des Psyche*, *Anacréontiques* *Lettres*, &c.; and his general character is not that of the greatest among the French poets, but the most singularly original, and the most an object of despair to all imitators.

He died at Paris in the year 1695, and was interred in the cemetery of St. Joseph, where his friend Moliere had been inhumed twenty-two years before.





## JOHN LAMBERT.

THIS distinguished general, during the wars of Charles the First, was descended from a good family. He entered himself as a law student at the commencement of the troubles of that reign. He acted as colonel at the battle of Marston Moor, and had a superior command in that of Naseby Field. He was a favourite of the independent party, who endeavoured to obtain for him the lieutenancy of Ireland; but the Presbyterians carried it against him, in favour of Waller. He was much trusted by Cromwell, to whom he was only considered as second in vigour and military talents, and whom he equalled in ambition. He served under him in Scotland, and gained a considerable victory in Fife; and, when the young king Charles II. pushed into England, he was despatched to hang upon his rear with a body of cavalry. When the royal cause was lost at the battle of Worcester, Lambert was employed to make a motion in the council of officers for placing a Protector at the head of the state, which dignity of course fell upon Cromwell. He, nevertheless, opposed the design of making Cromwell king, for which he was deprived by the Protector of all his commissions, but had an allowance of two thousand pounds per annum for past services. Upon his dismissal, he retired to Wimbledon, where he seemed to have exchanged his aspiring views for the pursuits of a florist. After the death of Cromwell, he returned to public life, and became the soul of the party of malcontents, against the protectorate of Richard, that used to assemble at Wallingford-house. The parliament also employed him to quell the dangerous insurrection under Sir George Booth, in Cheshire, in which he completely succeeded, and received the present of a thousand pounds to purchase jewels. Having influenced the council of officers to present another petition to parliament, the latter thought it of so dangerous a tendency, that they cashiered him; but, such was his influence over the army, that he procured the appointment of a committee of safety, in which the supreme power was vested. Lambert, however, found himself completely rivalled by general Monk, who, at the head of an army in Scotland, was meditating the restoration of the monarchy. As Lambert advanced northward with a body of troops to over-awe him, Monk, notwithstanding, crossed the Tweed in January 1660; and, whilst the parliament resumed their authority, Lambert was deserted by most of his men, and soon after arrested and sent to the Tower. His sudden escape from thence threw Monk and the council into great alarm; but, before he could assemble any body of troops that were flocking to him on all sides, he was taken, near Daventry, by Colonel Ingoldsby. At the Restoration, though he and Sir Henry Vane were neither of them regicides, they were excepted from the act of indemnity. Lambert, at his trial, behaved with such humble submission, that, though condemned, he was reprieved at the bar. He was then banished for life to the island of Guernsey, where he survived as a prisoner above thirty years, though he had great offers made him from the French Government, during the intriguing reign of Charles II., only to become a partisan, and contribute his endeavours towards delivering up Guernsey to the King of France. He was likewise accused by Dr. Titus Oats of being engaged in the Popish plot: a charge the most improbable; as, at that time, Lambert's faculties were quite impaired. His leisure time he filled with the cultivation of flowers, which it is said he learned from Baptist Gaspar. He died in the catholic faith.





## RUBENS.

**SIR PETER PAUL RUBENS**, usually styled the prince of painters, was a native of the city of Cologne, upon the Rhine, at which place he was born in June 1557. His father, originally of Antwerp, where he was sheriff and professor of civil law, had retired to Cologne previously to the birth of Rubens, in consequence of the troubles that then prevailed in the Low Countries. The family-house in which Rubens was born is called Juback; and, as great pains were taken in the education of this young genius, the rapid progress he made in classical learning and in the sciences proved a source of ample remuneration to his parents and teachers. Among the artists under whom he studied were Otho Venius, the Flemish Raphaël; and, at the age of twenty-three, he became an object of universal admiration. Patronized by the Duke of Mantua, he soon exchanged the more chilly regions of the north for the milder and brighter skies of Italy, residing seven years in the palace of his patron; and here pursued the glorious study in which he was engaged with all the ardour that fame and genius could inspire. A refined understanding being united to the talents he possessed, he was appointed by the Duke of Mantua envoy to the court of Spain, where he also painted many capital historical pictures.

Attracted by the celebrity of the works of Titian and Paul Veronese, Rubens visited Venice, and there acquired that fine style of rich and glowing colouring, for which his works are so remarkable. At Rome and at Genoa he also left many specimens of the advantages he had derived from the Venetian school. About 1620, he was employed by the Queen Marie de Medicis, on the great work of the Luxembourg. He went, soon after, ambassador to Holland from the court of Spain. In 1630, he also visited the court of Charles the First, and was presented to that monarch by the Duke of Buckingham: having concluded a treaty of peace between the two nations, he had the honour of receiving the order of knighthood, with a rich diamond and other valuable presents from his Majesty. Mr. Walpole supposes he resided here about a twelvemonth. It has been said, that to this embassy our country owes those invaluable specimens of his genius at the Banqueting-house, Whitehall; and various other productions of his inimitable pencil, painted for the nobility and gentry. But his pictures on the ceiling at Whitehall were not painted in England, which was probably the reason he was at the pains of finishing them so neatly as to bear the nearest inspection; as he must have well known how greatly the reputation of any work depends on its first happy impression on the public. Besides, he might conclude that his pictures would be viewed by the King and court instantly on their arrival, and that judgment would not be delayed upon them till they were elevated to their intended height. This noble work was falling into decay, till it was rescued from its perishing state by Cipriani, to whose care it was most judiciously committed to be cleaned. Rubens received for this work 3000*l*. The register of his baptism was in St. Peter's, Cologne: on taking a copy of the register, he gave a very grand picture; the value of which, being for some time misunderstood, Rubens being piqued, offered 3000*l*. to re-purchase it. This hint was taken, and the sum was refused.

Having finally returned to Antwerp, he lived in great opulence and splendour; but died of the gout, in the year 1640, being the 64th year of his age. He was interred in St. James's church, and his chair is still preserved. Rubens was so well versed in the belles lettres, that these he termed his recreation; and, as he had no wife, the Muses were his inseparable companions.





## BARON HALLER.

THIS illustrious literary character was the son of a citizen and advocate of Berne, and was born in October 1708.—The accounts of his early display of talents are as extraordinary as any upon record. Even in his fifth year, he was accustomed to write down all the new words he heard in a day. At the age of ten, he could translate from the Greek, and compiled for his own use a Chaldaic grammar and a Greek and Hebrew dictionary. About that time he also abridged, from Bayle and Moreri, above two thousand lives, and composed in Latin verse, a satire upon his preceptor, a man of great harshness and severity. On the death of his father, in 1721, he was removed from domestic tuition to the public school. In 1723, he was placed with a physician at Berne, and commenced the practice he continued through life. Here the surrounding beauties of nature awakened in him a poetic enthusiasm, the parent of many productions in German verse. At an early age he went to the University of Tübingen, and there practised in the dissection of animals under Duvernoi. In 1725, the high reputation of Boerhaave drew him to Leyden: under the younger Albinus, he studied human anatomy; and, in 1727, paid a visit to England, and from thence went to Paris, where he dissected under Le Dran. He next devoted some time to the study of mathematics at Basle, under John Bernoulli. Here he first imbibed an ardour for botany, and began to collect and describe plants, which laid the plan of his great work on the “Botany of Switzerland.” In 1728, he made the tour of the Alps of Savoy, the Valais, and Berne, which for some years he annually repeated. His poem on the Alps was composed in his twenty-first year, and followed by various ethic epistles, which placed him among the most distinguished votaries of the German muse.

In 1729, Haller returned to his native city, and employed himself in delivering anatomical lectures: in 1731, he married a lady of good family, who brought him 3 children: in 1736, he was invited to occupy the professorship of anatomy, surgery, and botany, in the newly-founded university of Göttingen, which he accepted; but lost his beloved wife immediately on her arrival, in consequence of being overturned on the road. Prosecuting his botanical pursuits, he made a journey into the Hercynian forest; and in 1739, repeated his Swiss tour. His great work, which appeared in 1742, at once raised him to the first class among the proficient in the science of botany. Between this year and 1753, he published a number of botanical papers, which were collected in his “*Opuscula Botanica*.” After residing seventeen years at Göttingen, the desire of returning to his own country, a passion almost innate with a Swiss, became irresistible: he had married a second wife at Göttingen, who died in child-bed; but he brought back with him a German lady, who increased his family, and survived him several years. Having been elected one of the sovereign council of Berne, he soon became a magistrate, which office he executed with zeal. He successively filled several other offices of honour and emolument, and died in the seventieth year of his age. With his finger on his wrist, he said to his physician, “my friend, I am dying.” This event took place on the 12th December 1777. He left eight children, all of whom he lived to see provided for.

Baron Haller was one of the most universally informed men in Europe. He wrote and spoke, with equal facility, the German, French, and Latin, languages, and read all the other tongues of civilized Europe. Besides the prodigious mass of his writings, too many to enumerate here, he maintained a very extensive correspondence with the learned of different countries. His most confidential correspondents were, John Gesner, of Zurich; and Bonnet, of Geneva. Among the honours he received from learned bodies and sovereigns, the order of the polar star was conferred upon him by the King of Sweden.





## MATTHEW PRIOR,

FROM an obscure original, attained to an exalted rank in life. According to some accounts, he was born at Wimborne, in Dorsetshire; while others relate, that he was the son of George Prior, a citizen of London; and, in the register of St. John's College, Cambridge, he is denominated *filius Georgii Prior generosi*. By his uncle, a vintner, at Charing-cross, he was placed under Dr. Busby, at Westminster school; but after he returned to reside at his uncle's, he was fortunately observed by the Earl of Dorset, whilst reading Horace, who was so much pleased with his acquirements, that he generously undertook the care of his academical education at Cambridge. On the first year of Prior's admission, he wrote a copy of Latin verses on the marriage of George Prince of Denmark with the Lady Anne. Being admitted to his bachelor's degree in 1686, in two years afterwards he produced his poem on the Deities, as a college exercise, which recommended him to the Earl of Exeter, which appears from his verses "to the Countess of Exeter," and his lines on the famous picture of "Seneca dying in a bath." In conjunction with the Hon. Charles Montague, he next produced "the City Mouse and Country Mouse," in ridicule of Dryden's "Hind and Panther."

Being invited to London by the Earl of Dorset, in 1691, Prior was sent to the congress at the Hague as secretary to the Earl of Berkeley; and he was afterwards appointed one of the gentlemen of the King's bed-chamber, which enabled him to devote considerable time to the quiet pursuit of literature. On the death of Queen Mary in 1695, Prior wrote an ode, which he presented to the King on his arrival from Holland, fraught with the highest encomiums on the character of his much-loved consort. Appointed secretary to the embassy on the treaty of Ryswick, he was presented by the lords justices with a considerable sum as a remuneration for his services. The next year he filled the same office at the court of Versailles. In 1699, Prior attended his sovereign at Loo, and in 1700 produced the *Carmen Seculare*. In 1701, he was elected for East Grinstead, and abandoning the Whig party, voted for the impeachment of Lord Somers and other peers, charged with recommending the Partition treaty. The greatest part of Queen Anne's reign being spent in war, Prior gave full scope to his poetical genius. His poems he dedicated to the Duke of Dorset. Prior, having been sent to Paris after the negotiations commenced that terminated in the peace of Utrecht, was honoured with the confidence of Louis XIV., and rose to the dignity of an ambassador: he continued at Paris some months after the accession of George I. when he was succeeded by the Earl of Stair; but, after his return to London in 1715, Walpole moved the house to impeach him for high treason, and he remained in custody till 1717, when an act of grace was passed, from which he was at first excepted. In a state of degradation at the age of fifty-three, Prior was obliged to have recourse to his studies, and was successful beyond his expectation; but, whilst engaged in writing a History of his own Times, he departed this life at Wimpole, the seat of his distinguished patron, the Earl of Oxford, and was interred in Westminster-abbey.

Dr. Johnson observed: "Prior has written with great variety, and his variety has made him popular. He has tried all styles, from the grotesque to the solemn, and has not failed in any, so as to incur derision or disgrace." Prior, though not panegyrised by his contemporaries, had justice done him by Gay, Mallet, and Lloyd, in strains that do honour to their genius and candour.





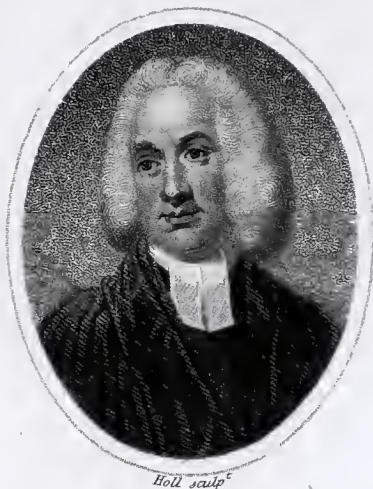
## TOURNEFORT.

THIS great leader of the French school of botany was born at Aix, in Provence, in June 1656. His mother, Ademara Fagoue, was of a Parisian family, and, in the French sense, noble. Being destined by his parents for the church, he was educated at the Jesuit's college in his native town; but he soon imbibed a taste for natural knowledge, which led him at the age of 21, on the death of his father, to turn his attention to physic. He was well grounded in his studies for the medical profession, and particularly in anatomy and chemistry; but, having soon exhausted the botanical riches of the physic garden at Aix, and the circumjacent fields, he extended his researches to the neighbouring Alps, and afterwards to the Pyrenees, where his hardy frame of body, and his observing, enterprising mind, easily introduced him to the knowledge of the vegetable stores of those romantic and fertile regions. Here he was even respected by the banditti then infesting those parts, who thought little of a man, whose only apparent riches were dried plants, and whose ostensible provision for his journey consisted of a little black bread, in which he concealed his money. His winters he generally spent in the university of Montpellier, where he first entered in 1679, but he is said to have taken his doctor's degree at Orange.

At Montpellier, he enjoyed the intimacy of Magnol, an eminent protestant professor. Tournefort was a catholic, but liberal. His merits as a botanist being known at Paris, aided by a fortunate introduction, he obtained the esteem of professor Fagon, physician to the queen, who resigned, in his favour, the superintendence of the royal garden; and in this school Tournefort was soon attended by a numerous throng of students eager to profit by his practical remarks. But, desirous of examining other countries besides his own, in 1688 he travelled into Spain and Portugal, and afterwards visited England and Holland.

Assisted by a royal pension, in 1692, he became a member of the Royal Academy; and, in 1694, published his "*Elements de Botanique*," in three octavo volumes, dedicated to Louis XIV. This, however, was only a prelude to his immortal work, "*Institutiones Rei Herbariæ*," in three quarto volumes, with 476 plates. In 1698, he was admitted a member of the Medical Faculty at Paris, and afterwards received the order of St. Michael. Under royal patronage he made a voyage to the Levant, accompanied by a German physician, and Claude Aubriet, one of the most exquisite botanical painters the world ever saw. His travels were to have extended into Africa, but the plague raging at Smyrna, he returned home immediately from thence. On arriving at Paris, it was his design to avail himself of the connections and reputation he had acquired, by devoting himself to the practice of physic. His time, however, was so incessantly occupied by the preparation of his voyage to the Levant, that it led him often to encroach on the night after the superabundant labours of the day. His health became impaired; but his fate was precipitated by a carriage in the street, which, pressing upon his stomach, would have caused his instant death, had he not been rescued by a friend, who happened to be near. After this event he languished only a few months, and died December 28, 1708, in the 53d year of his age. Being never married, he left his collection of plants to the king, who bestowed a pension of 1000 livres on his nephew, as an avowed return for this legacy, and a testimony of royal esteem. At the time of his decease, only the first volume of his Voyage was printed; but a second edition appeared at Amsterdam in 1718, to which is prefixed the Eulogium delivered upon him by Fontenelle before the Academy of Sciences, and a more ample composition of the same kind by Lauthier, the friend of Tournefort, who is said to have left several works in manuscript.





## DR. YOUNG.

THE celebrated EDWARD YOUNG was born at Upham, near Winchester, in June 1681. He was the son of Edward Young, at that time fellow of Winchester College, and rector of Upham. Being placed at Winchester College, he remained here till the election after his eighteenth birth-day; but did not succeed to an Oxford fellowship. In October 1703, he was entered an independent member of New College, Oxford, that he might live at the warden's lodgings at little expense, till he should be qualified to stand for a fellowship at All Souls. The warden dying, he removed to Corpus College. In April 1714, he took his degree of bachelor of civil laws, and his doctor's degree in June 1719.

His first poetical production was "An Epistle to the Right Hon. George Lord Lansdowne." In this composition the poet poured out his panegyric with the extravagance of a young man, who thinks his present stock of wealth will never be exhausted. When Addison published *Cato*, in 1713, Young had the honour of prefixing to it a commendatory copy of verses.—His "Last Day" was also printed in 1713, and inscribed to the Queen. Before her death, in 1714, "The Force of Religion, or Vanquished Love," was sent into the world. A poem was published by Young on the Queen's death, and his Majesty's accession to the throne, and inscribed to Addison, then Secretary to the Lords Justices. "Busiris," his tragedy, which was brought upon Drury-lane stage in 1719, was dedicated to the Duke of Newcastle, and followed by "The Revenge," in 1721. In 1719, he lamented the death of Addison, in a letter addressed to their common friend, Tickell, and, in the same year, it should have been observed, his "Paraphrase on a part of the Book of Job" appeared. Young's Satires were originally published in folio, under the title of "The Universal Passion," the first of them about 1725. Soon after the publication of "The Ocean, an ode," when he was almost fifty, Young entered into orders, and was shortly after appointed chaplain to George the Second. Not long after he took orders, he published in prose, "A true Estimate of Human Life;" but, in 1730, relapsed again into poetry, and published, "Imperium Pelagi," occasioned by his Majesty's return from Hanover, and the succeeding peace. Two epistles to Pope soon succeeded, "Upon the Authors of the Age, 1730;" and, in July in the same year, Young was presented by his College to the rectory of Welwyn, in Hertfordshire. In May 1731, he married Lady Elizabeth Lee, widow of Colonel Lee, and daughter to the Earl of Litchfield, but whom he lost in 1741.—Mrs. Temple, the daughter of this lady, whom Young has called Narcissa, died of a consumption at Lyons, to which place he accompanied her; the difficulties attending her funeral he has painted in strong colours in "Night the third." A short time before his death, in April 1765, Young published "Resignation," written for Mrs. Boscawen, the disconsolate widow of the Admiral. Young had performed no duty in his church for three or four years preceding his death; having been appointed clerk of the closet to the Princess dowager in 1761, at the age of fourscore.

His great standard work, "The Night Thoughts," has run through innumerable editions. In this, says the pious Hervey, "energy of language, sublimity of sentiment, and the most exquisite beauties of poetry, are the least perfections to be admired. Almost every line glows with devotion. A monument bearing a modest Latin inscription, was erected in the church of Welwyn, by the son of the deceased. The 'Thoughts' afford the highest entertainment to the fancy, and impart the noblest improvement to the mind, and not only refine our taste, but ripen us for glory."





## CHARLES HOWARD, EARL OF NOTTINGHAM.

THIS illustrious nobleman was the son of William Lord Howard of Effingham, and grandson of Thomas, the second Duke of Norfolk. He was born in 1536, and initiated early into the affairs of state, being in 1559 sent, on the death of Henry II. king of France, with compliments of condolence to his successor Francis II. and congratulations on his accession to the throne. Returning from this embassy, he was elected one of the knights of the shire for the county of Surrey in 1562; and in 1569, was general of the horse under the Earl of Warwick, in the army sent against the Earls of Northumberland and Westmoreland, then in rebellion. In 1573, upon the death of his father, he succeeded to his titles and estate, and the same year was installed knight of the garter, and made lord chamberlain of the household; and in 1585 was constituted lord high admiral of England. In 1588, the year of the Spanish armada, the Queen, knowing his great abilities, gave him the command of her whole fleet, with which he entirely dispersed and destroyed that formidable equipment, for which service the Queen not only rewarded him with a pension, but ever after considered him as the preserver of his country: and when, in 1596, another invasion was expected from the Spaniards, and a fleet of one hundred and fifty ships was equipped, with a proportionate number of land forces, he was appointed commander in chief at sea, as the Earl of Essex was by land: in this expedition, Cadiz was taken, and the Spanish fleet there burnt; and the lord high admiral had so large a share in this success, that he was advanced to the dignity of Earl of Nottingham, and appointed justice itinerant for life of all the forests south of Trent. In 1601, upon Essex's insurrection, he was sent to suppress it, which he did, and the same year was appointed one of the commissioners for exercising the office of earl marshal of England.

On the accession of James King of Scots to the throne of England in 1603, the earl was continued in his post of lord high admiral, and at the coronation was made lord steward of England for that occasion; and the year following, on the renewing the commission to seven lords for exercising the office of earl marshal, he was appointed one of the number. In 1604, he was one of the commissioners for treating of a union between England and Scotland; and in 1605, was sent ambassador to the court of Spain, attended with a splendid retinue, to take the oath of the King of Spain to the treaty of peace lately made with him. During this embassy he received the most gracious treatment from the King, and at his departure obtained presents from the Spanish monarch in plate, jewels, and horses, to the value of 20,000*l.* besides the gold chains and jewels given to his attendants. He continued lord high admiral of England till 1619, when, finding himself unable any longer to perform the necessary duties of that great employment, which he had enjoyed about thirty-three years with the highest applause, he voluntarily resigned it to his Majesty, who, being sensible of the important services which he had rendered the nation, remitted him a debt to the crown of 18,000*l.* and settled a pension of 1000*l.* a year on him for life.

He died in 1624, at the age of eighty-eight, leaving rather a memorial of his extraordinary worth than any great wealth to his family, though he had so long enjoyed the profitable post of lord high admiral, having expended great sums in several expeditions out of his own private fortune. He lived in the most splendid and magnificent manner, and was always forward to promote any design serviceable to his country.





## LORD LYTTLETON.

THE illustrious statesman, historian, and poet, the great and good George Lord Lyttleton, was born in the year 1709: he was the son of Sir Thomas Lyttleton, of Hagley, in Worcestershire, and was early an elegant writer both in prose and verse. He was initiated in classical learning in Eton school, where he attained to such eminence, that his exercises were recommended by the masters as models to the scholars in the same class. His "Soliloquy on a Beauty in the Country," and his verses on "Good Humour," were written at school. From Eton he went to Christ-church, Oxford, where he retained the reputation for superior talents he had acquired at Eton, and displayed his abilities to the public in a poem on Blenheim, written in 1727. He did not stay long at Oxford, for in 1728 he began his travels, and visited France and Italy, residing some time at Luneville, as appears by his letters to his father. At Paris, he employed much of his time in the cultivation of his poetical talents, and wrote a very manly and correct epistle to Dr. Ayscough, who had been his tutor at Oxford. During his absence he also wrote a poetical epistle to Pope from Rome; and, when he came back to England, in 1730, he addressed an epistle to Lord Hervey, from Hagley, in Worcestershire. Soon after his return he obtained a seat in parliament, and distinguished himself amongst the most strenuous opposers of Sir Robert Walpole, though his father enjoyed a lucrative employment under government. He opposed the standing army and the excise; he supported the motion for petitioning the King to remove Walpole, and was on all occasions an able coadjutor in every measure of opposition to Walpole's unpopular administration. In 1737, he published his "Persian Letters," in imitation of those of Montesquieu; and in the same year, when the Prince of Wales quitted St. James's, and kept a separate court, he became secretary to his royal highness, and had an augmentation to his salary of 240*l.* per annum.

Having the confidence of the prince, he advised him to patronize men of literature. Mallet was accordingly made under secretary with 200*l.*, and Thompson had a pension of 100*l.* a year. In 1741, he married Miss Lucy Fortesque, sister to Lord Fortesque of Devonshire; with this accomplished lady, by whom he had a son and two daughters, he lived in the greatest degree of conjugal felicity; but, after about five years, she died in child-bed, and he perpetuated her memory; and solaced his own grief, by writing a *Monody* that will be read as long as conjugal affection and a taste for poetry exist in this country: she was buried at Over Arley, in Staffordshire; but a very elegant monument is erected to her memory in the chancel of the church at Hagley. He afterwards sought happiness in a second marriage with the daughter of Sir Robert Rich, but was not equally successful.

In 1744, on the retreat of Sir Robert Walpole, he became one of the lords of the treasury, and was from that time engaged in supporting the ministry. In 1747, he published his celebrated *Observations on the Conversion of St. Paul*; "a treatise," says Dr. Johnson, "to which infidelity has never been able to fabricate a specious answer." In 1751, his father died when he inherited a baronet's title, with a considerable estate, which, if he did not augment, he certainly improved by expensive buildings and rural decorations. In 1755, he became chancellor of the exchequer; in 1756, he published his celebrated *Dialogues of the Dead*; and in 1757, was created a peer. His last literary work was the famous history of Henry the Second, which had employed much of his time during a period of twenty years. He died at Hagley, where the following inscription is cut on the side of his lady's monument: "This unadorned stone was placed here by the particular desire and express directions of the right honourable George Lord Lyttleton; who died August 22, 1773, aged 64."





## DR. HUGH BLAIR.

THIS venerable clergyman was a lineal descendant from an antient family in the west of Scotland; he was born on the 7th of April 1718. The fortune of his father had been much impaired, but not so as to prevent him from giving his son a liberal education. After going through the usual course at the high school, Hugh Blair became a student at the university of Edinburgh, in October 1730. From the delicacy of his constitution he was unable to partake much in the sports of the boys, but preferred amusing himself in his solitary walks by repeating the poems of others, and sometimes attempting to make some of his own.

When he became a student at the university, his constitution grew more vigorous, and he could pursue both the amusements and the studies proper for his age. In all his classes he attracted attention, but in the logic class he was particularly distinguished; and, while attending it, he composed an essay on the *Beautiful*, in which the bent of his genius first displayed itself, both to himself and to others.

In the year 1739, when the course of Mr. Blair's academical studies was nearly finished, he published a thesis, "*De Fundamentis et Obligatione Legis Naturæ.*" The discussion, though short, is able. After spending eleven years at the university in the study of literature, philosophy, and divinity, Mr. Blair was licensed to preach by the presbytery of Edinburgh, in 1741. In the pulpit his doctrines were sound and practical, and his language elegant: one sermon of his in the west church was particularly noticed, it arrested the attention of a very numerous congregation. The Earl of Leven was desirous to reward the preacher, which he did by procuring him a presentation to the church of Colessie, in Fifeshire. There Mr. Blair continued nearly ten months, when his talents were brought into a sphere, in which they became conspicuous and extensively useful. In consequence of a vacancy in the Canongate of Edinburgh, he was admitted second minister in July 1743; though to obtain this situation no small exertion was necessary on the part of his friends, and during the eleven years that he continued minister of the Canongate his reputation was continually growing. He was, in 1754, translated to that church in Edinburgh, called Lady Yester's, and from thence to the High church, in 1758. During the four years that Mr. Blair was minister of Lady Yester's, several important events in his life occurred.

In June 1757, the university of St. Andrew showed its discernment by presenting him with the degree of doctor in divinity, and as this academical honour was then hardly known in Scotland, it was the more creditable for those who attained it. The town council of Edinburgh, in August 1760, instituted in the university a professorship of rhetoric, to which they elected and appointed Dr. Blair; and in April 1762, his majesty erected and endowed a professorship of rhetoric and belles-lettres, appointing Dr. Blair professor, with a salary of 70*l.* After reading his course of lectures in the university above twenty years, Dr. Blair found it proper to publish them, in 1783; and observes, in his preface, that their publication then was not altogether a matter of choice. Imperfect copies had been exposed to sale, and it became necessary that the lectures should proceed from his own hand. He had married, in 1748, his cousin, Miss Bannatyne, and from their union, which lasted 47 years, he derived much domestic happiness; and her death, which happened five years before his own, deeply affected him. The summer before his death he prepared the last volume of his sermons for the press; and died in December 1800, in the 83rd year of his age.





## SERVETUS.

THIS eminent victim of protestant persecution was a native of Villa Neuva, in Arragon; he was born in 1509. His father, who was a notary, bestowed on him an excellent education, and he is generally supposed to have spent his early years, and to have received the first rudiments of his education, at Tudela, which is by some asserted to have been the place of his nativity; however, he was a student in his earliest youth, and understood Latin, Greek, and Hebrew, and in some degree philosophy and mathematics, before he was fifteen. At what time he first imbibed his anti-trinitarian principles does not appear, but they seem to have been his most early religious sentiments, and he soon became very fond of them; for, after spending two or three years at Toulouse, he retired into Germany, and commenced a reformer. He went to Basil, by way of Lyons and Geneva, and, having had some conference at Basil with Oecolampadius, he set out for Strasburg; and, in 1531, he there published a piece against the Trinity, and the next year this was followed by another on the same subject. He then returned to France, and having remained two or three years at Lyons, he went to Paris, and applied himself to the study of the medical art. He was admitted to the degree of A.M. and soon after to that of M.D. in that university. His book against the Trinity was now dispersed in Italy; and Melancthon, in 1539, wrote to the popish senate, at Venice, to use their utmost endeavours that the impious errors of this man might be avoided, rejected, and abhorred.

Servetus, having finished his studies at Paris, left that city, and practised physic for two or three years at Charleu and Lyons, and then at Vienne, in Dauphine, for twelve or thirteen years. He went to settle there by the invitation of its archbishop, Peter Palmier, who generously offered him apartments in his palace: several of his writings during this period appear to have given much offence to Calvin, who kept up a long epistolary correspondence with him, and endeavoured, as he says, for sixteen years, to reclaim him from his errors. Each, it seems, was anxious to convince the other. During the progress of this dispute, much heat arose on both sides; and Servetus having sent a MS. to Calvin, six years before he was apprehended at Geneva, though never printed, it was produced against him at his trial. Servetus, continuing in his former opinions, published a third book against the Trinity, and some other doctrines.

The book for which he was burnt came out at Vienne, in 1553, with the title of *Christianismi Restitutio*, and in this he was the first of all the physicians who mentioned the circulation of the blood: he printed a thousand copies, but most of them being burnt either at Vienne or Frankfort, they are now very scarce. Though this work was printed at Vienne very privately, yet Calvin somehow got information of it, and obtained a copy surreptitiously, though it had not been published; and, writing a letter to Lyons, urging the papists to destroy Servetus, he sent with it the title page, index, and first leaves, of the book.

Servetus was soon after apprehended at Vienne, and committed to prison, from whence he contrived to make his escape. The process, having begun against him before his departure, was carried on, and he was condemned to die by a slow fire: endeavouring to reach Naples, he was again apprehended at Genoa, by the information of Calvin, who somehow was informed of his arrival. He was now treated most cruelly; and after a long trial, if it might so be called, and suffering the most dreadful torture from vermin, filth, and various privations, he was burnt at Geneva, October the 27th, 1553.





## MARQUIS OF MONTROSE.

JAMES GRAHAM, Marquis of Montrose, was descended from one of the most antient and noble families in Scotland, of which kingdom his grand father was lord chancellor in the reign of James I. and his father ambassador to several princes, and lord president of the sessions under Charles I. He was born in 1613, educated a soldier, and was captain of the guard in France; when he was invited over into England by the Marquis of Hamilton, and introduced by him to court: but, Charles being prejudiced against him, he experienced such neglect, as induced him to join the covenanters in Scotland about 1637, and he was the first man who passed the river Tweed, at the head of five hundred horse, in the first expedition of the Scots against England; however, being afterwards offended, when the king went into Scotland in 1641, he went privately to his majesty, and informed him of the designs entertained against him in that country, assuring him, that the Marquis of Hamilton was no less false than the Earl of Argyle. He offered to make good this charge in parliament, though he was more inclined to have both these lords taken off in a less public manner; a task he was willing to undertake himself; but this the king declined.

In 1643, when the queen landed at Burlington Bay, in Yorkshire, from Holland, the earl came post from Scotland, with a hundred and twenty horse, and with some of the Earl of Newcastle's forces convoyed her majesty safe to York. He seized this opportunity to represent to the queen the probability of a fresh endeavour on the part of the Scots to bring an army into England, and begged her majesty to solicit the king to grant him a commission. This proposal was rejected through the Marquis of Hamilton's undertaking to keep Scotland quiet without having recourse to arms; but the year following, encouraged by the king, with a promise of assistance from the Marquis of Antrim in Ireland, the earl returned privately to Scotland, and, with a handful of men, gained three remarkable battles at Perth, Aberdeen, and Inverlochy, in the course of a few months. But his success proved fatal to the king, as it induced the monarch to break up the treaty of Uxbridge, as the earl declared his aversion to all treaties with the "rebel parliament," as he called them, and expressed his hope that he should be able, in a few months, to march into England with a brave army. The earl's services were rewarded with the title of marquis; but his fortune soon changed: for in September 1645, he was surprised by old David Leslie, and obliged to retire into the Highlands with a great loss; and the year following, the king being with the Scot's army, ordered him to lay down his arms, and leave the kingdom. He now retired to France, and afterwards went to the court of the Emperor of Germany; then returning to Brussels, he lived in private, till the death of Charles I. Charles II. being then at the Hague, the marquis waited on him with an offer of his services; but the commissioners who had come from Scotland to invite the king, refused to have any intercourse with him, though the king granted him a commission to levy what forces he could on that side of the water, which, after every effort, was only four ships from the Duke of Holstein, and about six or seven hundred men. He landed on the Isles of Orkney in the beginning of April 1650; but, unassisted by the Scots, he was entirely defeated by Colonel Straughan. Attempting to escape in disguise, he was betrayed by Lord Aston, formerly one of his friends and followers. He was conducted to Edinburgh, where a cruel sentence was pronounced against him on the 20th of May, and he was executed the following day, being in the thirty-eighth year of his age.





## HORATIO WALPOLE, EARL OF ORFORD,

THE youngest son of that celebrated minister, Sir Robert Walpole, more eminent for his literary than political career, has given unquestionable proofs of ingenuity in criticism, talent in poetry, and taste in the belles lettres. His propensity for such pursuits he was well enabled to gratify, from having inherited the patent places of usher of his Majesty's exchequer, comptroller of the pipe, and clerk of the escheats in the exchequer for life. He was born in 1717, and educated in Eton school, where he formed his acquaintance with Gray. About 1734, Mr. Walpole proceeded to Cambridge, and entered of King's College: his verses in memory of the founder Henry VI. dated February 1738, may be regarded as his first production, and no unfavourable presage of his future abilities. In 1739, he prevailed on his father to let him travel for a few years, and took his route to France, accompanied by Mr. Gray; but, upon their return in May 1741, a dispute arose at Reggio, of which Mr. Walpole incurred the blame, and they separated.

On his return to England, he obtained a seat in the house of commons, which he retained above twenty-five years; and after he closed his public career in politics, was a firm and ardent supporter of the cause of freedom, till the French revolution shook and embroiled all the former opinions of mankind. In 1747, he purchased a small tenement at Strawberry-hill, near Twickenham, which he afterwards altered and enlarged in the gothic taste of building. In 1757, he there opened a printing press, and first exercised it on the two sublime odes of Gray, with whom he had renewed his acquaintance in 1744. These were followed by the translation of a part of Hentzner's Travels, and the first edition of his Catalogue of the royal and noble Authors of England, Scotland, and Ireland, which is undoubtedly the most agreeable, though not the most perfect, of his literary performances. In the year 1749, his life was nearly closed by the pistol of Maclean the highwayman, which went off by accident; but he lived to inherit the title of Orford, on the death of his nephew in 1791. It was some time, however, before he would sign or assent to his new title, and he never took his seat in the house of peers. His new honours, the gout, and the French revolution, conspired with old age, to tease him; and his two last years were unhappy to himself, tormenting to the patience of his servants, and disastrous to some of his old and valued friendships.

On the 2nd of March 1797, he expired in Berkley-square, in the eightieth year of a life, prolonged by temperance, and rarely corroded by care or disturbed by passions. Avarice and vanity appear to have been his leading foibles; affability and a companionable temper his distinguishing virtues. Lord Orford's miscellaneous compositions are too copious and too well known to require enumeration. Those most likely to be reprinted in after times, are his *Mysterious Mother*, the *Castle of Otranto*, the *Anecdotes of Painting*, and his *Epistolary Correspondence*, much of which appears deserving of selection from Mr. Cole's manuscript in the Museum: no man ever existed who had less the character of a patron. He said with much *sang froid*, that "a poet or a painter may want an equipage or a villa, by wanting a patron; but they can always afford to buy ink and paper, colours and pencils." As to artists, he paid them what they earned, and he commonly employed mean ones, that the reward might be smaller; and respecting authors, it would be truly difficult to point out one who received from him any solid pecuniary advantage. His praise was valuable; but the powers of his voice were not extensive, and never called forth distant echoes. Chatterton could not reasonably expect, what neither Gray, nor Mason, nor other favourite men of genius, had ever experienced.





## DR. BEATTIE.

JAMES BEATTIE was a native of North Britain, being born in Kincardineshire, in 1735 : he was educated at the university of Aberdeen, of which he proved himself a distinguished ornament. After passing through the usual gradations of education, he returned to his native place, where he taught at a parochial school for many years. In this 'obscure retreat, he applied to classical learning with unremitting assiduity. His merit becoming more known, he was removed to Aberdeen, and became a teacher in the grammar school in that city. Here he married the head master's daughter, a beautiful and accomplished woman, by whom he had several children, all of whom died before him.

About the year 1766, Mr. Beattie published an answer to the celebrated David Hume, entitled an *Essay on the Immutability of Truth* : it was received in a very favourable manner, and the English clergy in particular deemed it a masterly performance. By the extension of Mr. Beattie's fame, his connections became more enlarged, and he was honoured with the patronage of the Duke of Gordon, to whom he is said to have been indebted for his moral philosophy chair in the university of Aberdeen, a most respectable situation, and its duties were discharged with fidelity. So well was this reply to Hume received, that the university of Oxford conferred upon its author the honorary degree of LL.D. and offers were made him of considerable preferment in the church of England, were he disposed to enter it ; but this he declined. It was some years after the publication of the *Essay on Truth*, that the *Minstrel* was produced, which has been justly admired by every reader of taste or sensibility. The conclusion, however, is abrupt ; occasioned by the death of Dr. Gregory, author of the *Father's Legacy to his Daughters*. He was Beattie's most intimate friend. The lines alluding to his decease, with which the poem concludes, are written with that tenderness which characterizes all the writings of our bard. It is asserted, that in the *Minstrel* the author has rendered Edwin the representative of himself, and thus delineated his history, and indulged his own feelings.

In the province of professor of moral philosophy in the Mareshal college at Aberdeen, Dr. Beattie produced many excellent performances, particularly his *Essays on Poetry, Music, and Classical Learning*, and also *Elements of Moral Philosophy*, being the substance of the lectures delivered by him on that subject in his official situation. Two little volumes, on the *Evidences of Christianity*, were published by him a few years previous to his decease, dedicated to the Bishop of London, who was his particular friend. His writings procured him an honour seldom conferred on persons of his rank in life : by Dr. Majendie he was introduced, at the desire of the King, to their Majesties at Kew, with whom he conversed with the utmost cordiality and frankness for upwards of an hour. The King expressed the most decided approbation of the *Essay on Truth*, which his Majesty observed, was the only book he ever stole ; adding, "I stole it from the Queen, who gave it Lord Hertford to read." The pride of Hume, it is understood, prevented any reply to this distinguished attack upon some of the most favoured tenets of infidelity, which had been adopted by him.

The loss of Dr. Beattie's eldest son was severely felt by him ; he was a youth of great promise, and had been educated with particular care : he was appointed by the King to succeed his father in the chair of moral philosophy at Aberdeen, but he died of a decline in 1790. He soon after lost another son, named Montague, after the celebrated Mrs. Montague ; and himself died at Aberdeen in August 1803, in the sixty-eighth year of his age.





## COWLEY.

THE father of this poet was a grocer in Fleet-street, who died before the birth of his son Abraham, in 1618. His poetical powers very early appeared; and are said to have been excited by the frequent perusal of Spenser, whose works occupied the window of his mother's apartment. Through the interest of friends he was admitted a king's scholar at Westminster school, and at the age of thirteen published a collection of poems, under the title of *Poetical Blossoms*. The tragical History of Pyramus and Thisbe was written when he was only ten. While at Westminster school he also wrote his pastoral comedy, called *Love's Riddle*; though this was not published till he had been two years at Cambridge, to which university he went in 1636. Being ejected by the parliament from Cambridge in 1643, he took shelter at St. John's, Oxford, where he published a satire called the *Puritan and Papist*, and by his loyalty and elegant conversation gained the friendship of the good Lord Falkland, and other noble attendants on the king. Having accompanied the Queen to Paris, he was employed in services of the highest confidence and honour for several years. He was even entrusted to cypher and decypher the letters which passed between their majesties, and he performed several hazardous journeys to Jersey, Scotland, Flanders, and Holland.

After several years absence from his native land, in 1656, at a most critical period, he was sent over to mix with that trusty band of loyalists, who in secrecy and silence were devoting themselves to the royal cause. Cowley was seized by the ruling powers by mistake, in the search after a royalist of distinction, and committed to prison. Dr. Scarborough, however, procured his enlargement, by becoming bail for 1000*l*. This year he published his poems and a preface to his works, which some of his party viewed as a relaxation from his loyalty; he has, however, been fully justified. Cowley, with his delicacy of temper, sincerely wished to retire from all parties, and saw enough among the fiery zealots of his own, to grow disgusted even with loyalty. The next year he was made a doctor of physic at Oxford, and, on the death of Cromwell, he returned to France. At length came the Restoration, when the poet returned, and celebrated that event in his *Ode* on the occasion. Both Charles the First and Second had promised to reward his fidelity with the mastership of the Savoy; but neglect was not all Cowley had to endure; the royal party seemed disposed to calumniate him. When young, he had hastily composed the comedy of the *Guardian*, a piece which served the cause of loyalty: after the Restoration, he re-wrote it, under the title of "*Cutter of Coleman-street*." It was not only ill received by a faction, but the author was accused of having written a satire against the King's party. Cowley, in an ode, has commemorated the genius of Brutus with all the enthusiasm of a votary of liberty; and after the King's return, when Cowley solicited some reward for his sufferings and services in the royal cause, the chancellor is said to have turned on him a severe countenance, saying, "Mr. Cowley, your pardon is your reward," the ode being then considered as of a dangerous tendency by half the nation.

At length, however, he gratified that ardent desire for rural retirement which he had ever felt, first at Barns Elms, and afterwards at Chertsey, in Surrey. At this last place he died in 1667, in the 49th year of his age. He was buried with great pomp, near Chaucer and Spenser, in Westminster Abbey; and Charles II. may be considered as having pronounced his funeral eulogium, by observing, that Mr. Cowley had not left a better man behind him in England. A marble monument was erected to his memory by the Duke of Buckingham.





## LORD HERBERT OF CHERBURY.

THIS eccentric nobleman was born in 1581. Horatio Walpole characterizes him, "as one of the greatest ornaments of the learned peerage." In 1595, he became a gentleman commoner of University College, Oxford. In 1603, he was made a knight of the Bath. Afterwards, being sent ambassador to France, in behalf of the protestants of that kingdom, he returned the insolence of the great constable the Duke de Luines with the spirit of a gentleman, without committing the dignity of his office. This occasioned a coolness between the two courts, but the blame in the end fell entirely upon the constable. In 1625, he was made a baron of Ireland, by the title of lord Herbert of Castle Island; and, in 1631, of England, by that of lord Herbert of Cherbury, in Shropshire.

Of the life of lord Herbert, penned by himself, Horatio Walpole observes:—"It is perhaps the most extraordinary account that ever was given by a wise man of himself." His lordship thus proceeds to characterise our noble author: "His valour made him a hero; his sound parts made him a philosopher. Few men, in truth, have figured so conspicuously in lights so various. As a soldier, he won the esteem of those great captains, the Prince of Orange and the Constable de Montmorency; as a knight, his chivalry was drawn from the purest founts of the Fairy Queen. Had he been ambitious, the beauty of his person would have carried him as far as any gentle knight can aspire to go. As a public minister, he supported the dignity of his country, even when its prince disgraced it; and that he was qualified to write its annals as well as to ennoble them, his History of Henry the Eighth proves, and must make us lament that he did not complete, or that we have lost, the account he purposed to give of his embassy. These busy scenes were blended with and terminated by meditation and philosophic inquiries. Strip each period of its excesses and errors, and it will not be easy to trace out or dispose the life of a man of quality into a succession of employments which would better become him. Valour and military activity in youth; business of state in the middle age; contemplation, and labours for the information of posterity, in the calmer scenes of closing life: this was lord Herbert. He died in 1648, and was buried in St. Giles's-in-the-Fields; but had erected an allegoric monument for himself in the church of Montgomery. His lordship had been indemnified by the parliament for his castle of Montgomery, which they thought proper to demolish.

The principal of his lordship's works are, *De Veritate*, which was translated into French in 1639—*De Religione Gentilium Errorum apud eos Causis*, the first part printed in London 1645—*Expositio Buckinghami Ducis in Ream Insulam*, published in 1656—*Life and reign of Henry the Eighth*; London, 1643. The original manuscript was deposited by the author in 1643 in the archives of the Bodleian library. It was undertaken by command of king James the First, and is much esteemed; yet, says the author of the catalogue of noble and royal authors, one cannot help regretting that a man, who found it necessary to take up arms against Charles the First, should have palliated the enormities of Henry the Eighth, in comparison with whom king Charles was an excellent Prince. It is, however, allowed to be a master piece of historic biography.—His lordship also wrote occasional poems, London 1665, published by Henry Herbert, his younger son, and by him dedicated to Edward Lord Herbert, grandson of the author. In the library of Jesus College, Oxford, are preserved his lordship's historical collections.—Two Latin Poems are inserted in his *Life*, "*De Vitâ Humana*" and "*De Vita Cælesti Conjectura*." These pieces were printed in 1647, with a longer, entitled, *Hæred ac Nepot, suis Precepta et Consilia*, &c.





## JOHN RAY.

THIS eminent natural philosopher, botanist, and divine, was born at Black Notley, near Braintree, in Essex, in 1628. His father, who pursued the humble occupation of a blacksmith, perceiving that his son possessed a vigorous genius, sent him to school at Braintree, and thence to Cambridge, where he was admitted into Catherine Hall, but afterwards removed to Trinity College. Here he became distinguished for his skill in natural history, and particularly for his knowledge of botany, which grew into a favorite study, and was pursued with particular avidity from his example. His industry and steady application obtained him much renown. The better to increase his acquaintance with the works of Nature, but especially those of the vegetable kingdom, he made several journeys through the chief part of Great Britain. He also visited various countries on the continent, with the same intention, accompanied by the great Francis Willoughby, who was likewise his companion in several of his home journeys.

It is remarkable that the sublime and beautiful scenery of nature, which has of late given eloquence to the pen of so many travellers, was, in the time of Ray, entirely disregarded; and it has been observed, with equal propriety and truth, that though our naturalist, in his different excursions, "passed through the vallies of Derbyshire, ascended the mountains of North Wales, and beheld the beauties of the Cumberland lakes; yet, from the whole of his itineraries, not a single sentence can be gleaned expressive of that wonder and delight with which every one at the present day is irresistibly affected." In the defence of Mr. Ray against this charge, it has been urged, that, as his excursions were not supported by an opulent fortune, his remarks might be necessarily brief; and that, as his objects were rather of an individual than of a general kind, the former most probably nearly engrossed the whole of his attention. Those persons, however, who read his "*Wisdom of God in the Creation*," will certainly acquit him of the least want of devotional taste, as this work affords a presumptive proof, at least, that in the countries through which he passed, the romantic and sublime scenery, the long extended moors, the deep vallies, the meandering streams, and even the dreary heights, devoid of objects calculated to relieve the weariness of the traveller's eye, had not been lost upon Mr. Ray, who has evidently reserved the impressions they then made upon him for his favourite work, before referred to, and which became the organ of those glowing sentiments that no doubt were collected from those picturesque regions, where, from the sudden change, admiration is excited by the comparison that follows, and the mind readily admits that its pleasure would have been less perfect if the preceding scenes had been more beautiful.

Towards the latter part of his life, Mr. Ray removed from Cambridge to Black Notley, where he died in 1706, in his 78th year. He was buried in the church-yard, where a neat pedestal monument was erected to his memory, at the expense of Henry Compton, bishop of London. It is inscribed with an elegant Latin epitaph, a correct English translation of which is given in the *Beauties of England and Wales*; part of which is as follows:—

"A high descent lent nothing to his fame;  
Virtue, not birth, distinguish'd his great name;  
Titles and wealth he never strove to gain,  
These he would rather merit than obtain.  
His private life in humble shades he spent;  
Worthy a palace, with a cell content;  
Unwearied he would knowledge still pursue;  
The only thing in which no mean he knew.  
Our modern sage, dark Nature's secrets read,  
From the tall cedar to the hyssop's bed;  
From the unwieldiest beast of land or deep,  
To the least insect that has power to creep."





## REMBRANDT.

THIS eminent painter and engraver was born at a village on the banks of the Rhine, near Leyden, in 1606, and was hence called REMBRANDT VAN RHYN. This original genius, the son of a miller, evinced in his child-hood a strong propensity for painting; and having early in life produced a picture of great merit, he was advised to dispose of it at Amsterdam. He accordingly carried it thither under his arm, and soon found a purchaser, who gave him a hundred florins. Elated with his success, he disdained to trudge back on foot, but boldly ventured to take a place in the waggon. Such was his attachment to the study of his art, that he neglected every other acquirement; and, it is said, could barely read. This was, perhaps, the true cause why he associated through life with vulgar company. His aim was, to be a faithful delineator of nature; but, like most of the Flemish painters, he did not sufficiently reflect, that what was before him might not always represent nature in her finest situations. He imbibed, in short, the heavy taste of his country; but, possessing the native powers of great genius, they burst through every impediment. The subjects of his studies were singular. The walls of his painting room were covered with old dresses, pikes, and armour; a chest full of antient stuffs, and other things he used to call his *antiques*. He took great pride in his natural force of genius, as appears from the following circumstance: Rembrandt gloried in never having visited Italy, and repeated this with apparent triumph one day to Vandyck, who had visited him at Amsterdam. "I see that very well," replied Vandyck. Rembrandt, naturally irritable, exclaimed, "Who are you, who speak to me in this manner?" To which his visitor replied, "Sir, I am Vandyck, at your service."

Rembrandt drew abundance of portraits with wonderful strength, sweetness, and resemblance. They generally had the force of nature, but the grounds were very dark; of which being told one day, he said, "I am a painter, not a dyer." In the knowledge of the *claro-obscuro*, he stands unrivalled. He also engraved numerous plates after his own designs. Even in his etching, which was dark, and as peculiar as his style of painting, every individual stroke performed its part, and expressed the very flesh as well as the spirit of the person represented. He generally resided at Amsterdam, where he obtained very high prices for his works, and he had so many commissions, that his portraits were often slightly sketched. His inordinate spirit of gain made him sell his prints in every state from the etched outline to the last finishing. So completely, indeed, was he the slave of avarice, that he subsisted on the coarsest food; a red herring and cheese constituted his daily repast: yet he is said to have cleared three hundred pounds annually by his pupils alone. Though a man of singular humour, he was often disgustingly rude to persons of superior rank, whom his great reputation attracted. He died at Amsterdam, in great affluence, in 1674, at the age of sixty-eight.

The works of Rembrandt are valued for their forcible expression: his heads of old men are singularly striking. He gave to the various parts of the face a character of life and truth which can never be too much admired. The strong lights, so conspicuous in all his pictures, are said to have been effected by means of a hole or aperture formed purposely to admit them.

The pictures of Rembrandt are certainly worthy the study of a young artist in acquiring the true force and expression of nature, and will always be gazed on with a mixture of pleasure and astonishment; but they must by no means be adopted as models by the pupil who has an opportunity of studying the chaster copies of the Italian school.





## ARCHBISHOP WILLIAMS.

THIS eminent prelate was the son of Edward Williams, Esq. of Aberconway, born there in March 1582; he was educated at the public school at Ruthin, and at sixteen years of age he was admitted of St. John's College, Cambridge. His natural parts were excellent, and his application uncommon, so that for several years he required no more than three hours sleep out of the twenty-four. At the close of Queen Elizabeth's reign, he became bachelor of arts, and entering into holy orders in his 27th year, he accepted a small living in Suffolk. In May 1611, he was, by King James, presented to the rectory of Grafton Regis, in Northamptonshire; and, at Midsummer, the same year, was recommended as chaplain to the Lord Chancellor Egerton. When Sir Francis Bacon was made lord keeper of the great seal, he offered to continue Mr. Williams as his chaplain, which the latter declining, his lordship put him into the commission of the peace for Northamptonshire. By the interest of Dr. James Montagu, Bishop of Winchester, he was next made chaplain in ordinary to the king. In 1619 he preached before his majesty at Theobald's. In the same year he was collated to the deanery of Salisbury, and in July 1620, he was installed Dean of Westminster through the interest of the Marquis of Buckingham, whose lady he had converted from the errors of the Church of Rome.

Upon the disgrace of the Lord Chancellor Bacon, Dr. Williams was advanced to the dignity of lord keeper of the great seal, and in the same month, July 1621, was made bishop of Lincoln. But, after the death of James I. whom he attended in his last moments, he lost all his interest at court, and, by the influence of the Duke of Buckingham, to whom he had given offence, he was not only removed from the post of lord keeper, but ordered not to appear in parliament: this order he refused to obey, and exerted himself with great zeal in promoting the petition of right. Being prosecuted in the court of star chamber, by Dr. Sibthorpe and Sir John Lamb, he was sentenced to pay a fine of ten thousand pounds to the king; to suffer imprisonment during his majesty's pleasure; and to be suspended from all his dignities, offices, and functions. However, on the meeting of the long parliament in 1640, he was set at liberty by order of the house of Lords, among whom he took his place, and was also reconciled to his majesty, who commanded all proceedings against him to be cancelled. The year following he was translated to the archbishopric of York; and in May, argued with such vigour against the bill for depriving the bishops of their seats, that it was laid aside till the November following, when, to enforce it, the rabble flocked about the parliament house, exclaiming, "No Bishops," and insulting many of them as they passed: the new archbishop then having his clothes torn from his back, retired to his residence, then in Dean's Yard, and summoning all the bishops in town, drew up a protest to the house of lords; but, upon the delivery of which, those prelates were accused of high treason, and sent prisoners to the Tower, the bishops of Litchfield and Durham excepted, who were committed to the usher of the black rod.

After the king's death, the archbishop fell into the deepest dejection, and did not survive this catastrophe much more than a year, dying in March 1650; he was interred in Llandegay church, where a monument was erected to his memory. Notwithstanding the censures cast upon him by Lord Clarendon, this archbishop, who was never married, was a man of great hospitality and general charity, especially towards gentlemen of narrow fortunes, and indigent scholars in both universities.





## LORD FALKLAND.

LUCIUS CARY VISCOUNT FALKLAND was born in 1609: he received the greatest part of his education in Ireland, where his father was at that time lord-deputy. Before he attained his twentieth year he became master of a considerable fortune left him by his grand-father. Shortly after, he went into the low countries with the design of taking some command; but, being disgusted by the inactivity of the campaign, he returned to England. Not having been sufficiently instructed in Greek, though most ardently attached to London, he resolved not to visit this favourite city till he had completely mastered that language. Accordingly he repaired to his country-house, near Oxford, and in a very short time he accurately read all the Greek historians. He also contracted an intimacy with several of the learned, and many of the collegians resided with him.

His mother, who was a catholic, made many attempts to draw him from his attachment to the church of England; but, though he never declined a conference on the subject of religion, and treated those who forced themselves on him with the greatest kindness, yet in the end he was obliged to decline any further intercourse with these unholy proselyte makers, who rewarded his hospitality by stealing his two younger brothers, both children, and sending them beyond the seas, and by perverting the minds of his two sisters. This occasioned him to write two long discourses against the catholic religion, with great sharpness of style and weight of reasoning.

He was a member of the short parliament, and in the next he declared himself warmly against the faults of the court. His rigid observance of established laws and rules made him extremely severe against the Earl of Stafford and Lord Fiuch. He had a high opinion of the integrity and uprightness of Mr. Hampden, and some of his associates; but, when he thought he discerned a desire to control the law by a vote of one or both houses, he strenuously opposed their designs. The advances afterwards made to him from the court party made him so apprehensive that he should be suspected of seeking preferment, that he declined them rather rudely. His answers to the king's messages to speak with him were so negligent, as to prove that he cared only that his actions should be just, not that they should be acceptable. He also for some time refused the seals, and his motives in accepting them were solely lest his refusal might bring some blemish on the king's affairs. When secretary, he, however, absolutely refused either to employ spies, or to open letters, his integrity being too inflexible to stoop to such violations, however necessary.

From the commencement of the civil wars, his natural cheerfulness and vivacity forsook him; yet, believing that one battle would end all differences, he still laboured to repress his melancholy: but, after the return of the king from Brentford, and the resolution of the two houses to admit of no treaty for peace, his dejection became fixed. He, however, insisted on being present in every place of danger. In the morning before the battle of Newbury he was very cheerful, and put himself into the first rank of Lord Byron's regiment, then advancing upon the enemy, who had lined the hedges on both sides with musqueteers, whence he was shot in the lower part of his belly, and immediately falling from his horse, his body was not found till the next morning. He thus died on the 20th of September 1643, in the 34th year of his age. It has been justly said of his lordship, that he had a fine genius, a generous disposition, and an undaunted love of liberty.





## THOMAS CROMWELL,

### EARL OF ESSEX.

THIS often-adduced example of the instability of wealth and royal favour, was the son of a blacksmith, who subsequently became a brewer. He was born at Putney, about the year 1498. There he received the whole of his education, being taught reading and writing at the parish school, and so much Latin as enabled him to understand his Creed and Paternoster. Being much inclined to travelling, when he grew up, he visited foreign countries, and it is said was retained as clerk or secretary to the English factory at Antwerp. While he remained there he engaged with some persons sent from London to Rome, to procure indulgences from Pope Julian. On their arrival at Rome, Cromwell in the first place informed himself of the character of the Pontiff; and, learning that he was a notorious epicure, caused some very delicious jellies to be made after the English fashion, which he presented to his holiness: this so well pleased Julian, that he instantly granted the indulgences required.

During his travels he made himself so completely master of the German, French, and Italian, languages, that he could both speak and write them with the utmost correctness. On his return, these accomplishments recommended him to the notice of Cardinal Wolsey, who, in 1522, made him his solicitor, and frequently employed him in affairs of the greatest delicacy and importance. Cromwell was his principal instrument in founding his two colleges at Oxford and Ipswich; as he was also in suppressing the smaller monasteries, which Henry VIII. had allotted for the completing and endowing those seminaries. Nothing does so much honour to the memory of Cromwell as his devoted attachment to his master when he fell into disgrace. He procured a seat in parliament, purposely to defend his cause against his enemies. It was this that attracted the notice of Henry, who, upon the dissolution of the Cardinal's household, received Cromwell into his own service. Instead of endeavouring to win over the clergy, already his enemies, he widened the breach by proving to the King that the English ecclesiastics, though sworn to him, were subsequently dispensed from their oath, and sworn anew to the bishop of Rome.

Cromwell soon afterwards had the honour of knighthood conferred upon him, was made master of the jewel office, and sworn of the privy-council. In 1534 he was appointed principal secretary of state, was master of the rolls, and elected chancellor of Cambridge. In 1536, he was rewarded for his diligence in ascertaining the scandalous lives of the monks and friars, with the custody of the privy seal, and in the same month was created a peer. He next encouraged the translation of the Bible into English, and ordered a copy of it to be placed in every parish church. He was afterwards successively raised to the dignities of Earl of Essex and lord high chamberlain of England. To secure his power, which he had felt to totter while Jane Seymour retained an influence over the mind of Henry, he strenuously exerted his influence to promote the marriage of Henry with Anne of Cleves; but the disgust the King conceived against his new bride, determined Cromwell's fate. For, on a clamour raised against him by the Catholics, encouraged by the Duke of Norfolk and the Bishop of Winchester, Henry, who was now courting their favour with a view of marrying the Duke's niece, Catharine Howard, if he could procure a divorce, resolved to sacrifice his minister; and accordingly, in June 1540, a bill of attainder was brought into the house of lords; and, without being permitted to plead in his own defence, he was condemned and executed on Tower-hill, July 28, 1540.





## ARTHUR LORD CAPEL

WAS the only son and heir of Sir Henry Capel, who died in the flower of his age. He succeeded to the family estate on the death of his grandfather, Sir Arthur, and following the example of his ancestors, was very eminent for his hospitality to his neighbours, and great charity to the poor, which endeared him to the hearts of the people, who chose him to serve in parliament for the county of Hertford in 1639-1640. In the following year he was advanced to a barony by Charles I., with the title of Lord Capel of Hadham. Upon the breaking out of the civil war, he raised, at his own charge, some troops of horse, in defence of the royal cause; fought valiantly in many battles and skirmishes; and continued to adhere loyally to his king, till his armies were dispersed, his garrisons lost, and his person imprisoned; when Lord Capel compounded with the parliamentarians, and retired to his seat at Hadham. But, perceiving the bad usage of his sovereign, he resolutely ventured again, with all the force he could raise, to rescue the king from his enemies; and joining his troops with those of Lord Goring and Sir Charles Lucas, underwent the severest hardships in the defence of Colchester, which, after a siege of ten weeks, was surrendered upon articles to General Fairfax. In direct breach however of those articles, which the parliament did not choose to ratify, Sir Charles Lucas and Sir George Lisle were shot, while Lord Capel was sent prisoner to Windsor Castle; and an act of attainder was passed by the house of commons, to be brought in against him. On the 10th of November following, the house voted that he and some others should be banished out of the kingdom; but, that punishment not being thought severe enough, he was removed to the Tower. On the 1st of February 1649, he escaped out of his prison, but was discovered and apprehended two days after at Lambeth, and committed again to the Tower. On February the 10th he was brought again before the high court of justice at Westminster Hall, to be tried for treason, and other high crimes; and, though he strenuously insisted that he was a prisoner to the Lord General, that he had conditions given him, and was to have fair quarter for his life; yet his plea was over-ruled. Three days afterwards he was brought again before the court, when the counsel moved, that he should be hanged, drawn, and quartered. However, on the 6th of March, he was ordered to be beheaded, which sentence was carried into execution on the 9th. His body was carried to Little Hadham, in Hertfordshire.

This loyal lord, it is said, at the time of his death, presaging the restoration of Charles II., and presuming then, that the due obsequies would be paid to the memory of the royal martyr, ordered that his heart should be reserved and kept, and then to be buried and laid at his royal master's feet; which accordingly was put into a silver box, inclosed in another, with two locks, and deposited in the hands of the Lord Beauchamp, who had the keeping of one key, as Sir Thomas Corbet had of the other. Lord Beauchamp, finding his departure near, delivered the box to Sir Thomas, who, upon his death-bed, delivered it to the Earl of Essex, being then young. But after the restoration, there being (for some unknown reasons) no funeral rites performed over the body of the deceased king, this box was laid by in the evidence-room at Hadham, the earl's residence, where it lay till after his decease, and was at last deposited in the family vault.

His lordship's literary remains were first printed in 1654, viz. "Daily Observations, or Meditations divine and moral, written by a person of honour and piety; to which are added, certain Letters written to several persons, 4to. "Excellent Contemplations, &c. written by the magnanimous and truly loyal Arthur Lord Capel, Baron of Hadham, with some account of his life."





## DR. PEARCE.

THIS learned prelate was born in London, in the year 1690. The earlier part of his education he received at a school at great Ealing, whence in 1704 he was removed to Westminster school, then under the care of Dr. Busby ; greatly distinguishing himself, he was elected one of the king's scholars. In 1710 he went to Trinity-college, Cambridge, where he obtained a high reputation as a classical scholar, and occasionally amused himself with the lighter species of composition, some of which he communicated to the *Guardian* and *Spectator*. In 1716, he published from the university press an edition of "*Cicero de Oratore*" with notes and emendations, which, being dedicated to lord chief-justice Parker, laid the foundation of his future fortunes : through his lordship's interest, he was first elected a fellow of Trinity college. In 1717, Mr. Pearce entered into deacon's orders, and in the following year was ordained priest. In 1718, lord Parker being appointed lord chancellor, Mr. Pearce accepted the invitation to reside with him as domestic chaplain : in 1719, he was presented to the rectory of Stapleford Abbots, in Essex, to which preferment the lord chancellor added, in the following year, that of St. Bartholomew behind the Royal Exchange, London. Soon after this, Mr. Pearce was appointed one of his Majesty's chaplains. In 1721, he married a lady with a considerable fortune, by whom he had several children, all of whom died young. About a year after his marriage, he was presented with the vicarage of St. Martin's in the Fields, and took his Doctor's degree.

In 1724 Dr. Pearce dedicated his edition of *Longinus* to the Earl of Macclesfield. In 1739 he was nominated dean of Winchester by sir Robert Walpole, and in 1748 was promoted to the bishopric of Bangor. It is generally believed he was really averse to accepting the episcopal dignity, and still more reluctant to the possession of the bishopric of Rochester, together with the deanery of Westminster ; twice after this he might have been raised to the high dignity of diocesan of London, but he declined the honour. Wishing several years to resign his deanery in Westminster, he did not succeed in obtaining the king's consent till 1768. From that time he discharged his episcopal functions, and pursued his private studies with all his remaining vigour, till 1773, when he was seized with paralytic affections that continued to increase till his death, which took place in June 1774. Having attained his 84th year, and lost his wife, he made his brother William Pearce, Esq., his heir and executor ; his library he bequeathed to the dean and chapter of Westminster ; his MSS. he gave to his chaplain, Mr. Derby. He left several legacies to private persons, and to public charities ; but his principal legacy was 5000*l.* to a college at Bromley, in Kent, founded by bishop Warner in 1666, for twenty widows of clergymen ; bishop Pearce's design was not to increase the number, but to advance the happiness of this society. In his parochial cure he was punctually diligent, and very seldom omitted to preach ; and in domestic life was quiet and placid, and by no means disposed to harass his attendants or inferiors. In answer to Dr. Bentley's imaginary emendations of *Paradise Lost*, he wrote a vindication of the established text : he was the author of "*the Miracles of Jesus vindicated*," and "*two Letters to Dr. Waterland upon the Eucharist* ;" but his great work was not published till 1777, under the title of "*A Commentary with notes on the four Evangelists, and the Acts of the Apostles* ;" a new translation of St. Paul's first Epistle to the Corinthians, with a paraphrase and notes ;" in two vols. 4to. Mr. Derby, his lordship's chaplain, gave likewise to the public four volumes of this prelate's sermons.





*Holl sculp.*

## BISHOP HURD.

THIS venerable prelate was born at Congreve, in Staffordshire, where his father was a respectable farmer, and who, at an early age, placed his son under Mr. Anthony Blackwall, author of the sacred classics.—At Cambridge, Mr. Hurd was admitted of Emmanuel-hall, of which he became fellow, and he was presented by his society to the living of Thurcaston, in Lincolnshire. Here he prepared his edition of Horace, which he dedicated to Bishop Warburton, then considered as the first critic of his day. Through his interest Mr. Hurd was allured from his seclusion in Lincolnshire, and made archdeacon of Gloucester; the bishop also associated him with himself as preacher at the chapel in Lincoln's-inn. Here Mr. Hurd's discourses engaged the attention, and procured him the friendship of the Earl of Mansfield, who obtained for him the distinguished office of preceptor to the Prince of Wales. In 1775, he was made bishop of Litchfield and Coventry; in 1781, he was appointed clerk of the closet to the king; and, on the death of Dr. Cornwallis in 1783, he was offered the see of Canterbury: but he had obtained a situation more agreeable to his wishes, and therefore declined it. For several years before, bishop Hurd had in a manner secluded himself at Hartlebury, and had enriched that noble pile with a library containing the greater part of the books that had belonged to Mr. Pope and bishop Warburton, which he afterwards bequeathed for the use of his successors.

His lordship, who has left behind him several monuments of his industry and zeal, published an edition of Cowley's works in 1759, and, like another eminent dignitary, one of the first of bishop Hurd's productions that opened the way to public notice, was poetic; viz. an Ode on the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle. His Moral and Political Dialogues with letters on Chivalry and Romance, 3 vols. octavo, in 1776, procured him the greatest reputation. As a theological writer, he published two volumes of excellent sermons preached before the Society of Lincoln's-inn, and another volume, being Discourses on the Prophecies. These exhibit close logical reasoning, fervent piety, and a chaste and elegant language. As a disputant, Dr. Hurd appeared in a pamphlet, entitled "Remarks on Mr. Hume's Essay on the Natural History of Religion." When he first became acquainted with bishop Warburton, he printed "an Essay on the Delicacy of Friendship," in which Dr. Jortin, and Dr. Leland of Dublin, were treated rather rudely for their want of respect to his great patron, but which, much to the bishop's credit, he afterwards endeavoured to suppress. When "Tracts by Warburton and a Warburtonian" were published in 1788, the public was sensibly disappointed in not finding the long expected life of that celebrated character; but instead of this, a prefatory discourse, by way of introduction, containing a brief but elegant memoir of bishop Warburton. How the latter would have acted with regard to the catholics, cannot be determined; but it is evident, that bishop Hurd's liberality of sentiments in that respect, rendered him an object of popular fury in 1780, when a rabble attacked his chariot, on his way to the House of Peers, which they broke to pieces, though his lordship escaped without any injury.

After having long enjoyed his retirement at Hartlebury Castle, he expired there in 1808, in the 88th year of his age; and his remains were interred in Hartlebury Churchyard, in a private manner, attended chiefly by his tenants and household servants. On the following Sunday a funeral sermon was preached at Worcester cathedral by the dean, in which he particularly endeavoured to make his lordship's character useful as an example to others.





## JOHN WILKES.

THIS celebrated partisan was born in the year 1728, in the parish of St. James's, Clerkenwell, where his father was a distiller. Mr. Wilkes received a liberal education; and, after travelling on the continent, where he associated with John Horne Tooke, he married a lady of fortune, and became colonel of the Buckinghamshire militia. In 1761, he was elected member for Aylesbury, after which he became a violent opposer of the administration of Lord Bute. In 1763, he commenced the publication of a series of papers, which he entitled the *North Britain*, the forty-eighth paper of which certainly contained a personal and very indecent attack upon the King. A warrant being issued from the Earl of Halifax, then secretary of state, Mr. Wilkes's papers were seized, and himself committed close prisoner to the Tower. Being twice brought up to Westminster-hall, he was discharged, but dismissed from his military command. Upon the meeting of parliament, in November 1763, Mr. Wilkes made his regular complaint, which was to be taken into consideration in a few days, but in the interim he was wounded in a duel with Mr. Martin, and was unable to appear. However, the sheriffs of London received an order to burn the 45th number of the *North Britain*, at the Royal Exchange, when, in a violent riot, the paper was snatched from the hands of the executioner. On the 6th of December 1763, Mr. Wilkes brought his action against the Earl of Halifax for seizing his papers, and obtained a verdict for 1000*l.* damages and costs of suit, and lord chief justice Pratt declared the general warrant illegal. During the Christmas vacation, Mr. Wilkes thought proper to cross the Channel to France.

On the 16th of January 1764, the Commons voted his expulsion; but this only increased his popularity. However, by his contumacious conduct towards the courts at Westminster, he caused a sentence of outlawry to be passed upon him, and for several years resided on the continent, till the eve of the election in 1768, when he suddenly appeared in England, and offered himself as a candidate for the city of London. Being rejected on the poll, he put up for Middlesex, and was returned; when the populace compelled the inhabitants to illuminate, and attacked Mr. Harley, the lord mayor, at the mansion-house. Mr. Wilkes surrendering himself to the King's Bench, though he obtained a reversal of his outlawry, had the verdicts of his former trials affirmed by Lord Mansfield, and was condemned to two years imprisonment in the King's Bench prison. Being rescued from the officers, he again surrendered himself; but, as many people assembled every day before the gates, the military was called out, when, being provoked by an attack with stones, &c. on the 10th of May, 1768, more than twenty persons were killed and wounded.

To a circumstance in the life of Mr. Wilkes, the liberty of publishing the speeches in parliament is, in a great measure, owing. In 1771, several printers were summoned to the bar, to answer the complaint of some members on this account. In consequence of their refusing to attend, one was taken before Mr. Alderman Wilkes, who discharged him: two others were carried before Aldermen Crosby, Wilkes, and Oliver, and also discharged; but the aldermen held the King's messenger, who had apprehended them, to bail; for which the thanks of the corporation were voted them. Messrs. Oliver and Crosby, refusing to make any concession to the House, were committed to the Tower. Mr. Wilkes, also being summoned, addressed a letter to the speaker, that he could attend only in his place as member for Middlesex, which he was not permitted to do till the year 1774. The same year he was chosen lord mayor: he afterwards obtained the honourable office of chamberlain to the city of London; and, in 1790, quitted parliament. He died the 27th of December 1797.





## OPIE.

THIS child of genius was born in 1761, in the obscure parish of St. Agnes, in the County of Cornwall. His father carried on the trade of a carpenter. At the village-school, such was young Opie's proficiency, that, being entrusted to instruct others, he was called "little Sir Isaac"; and, at twelve years of age, he set up an evening school, for teaching writing and arithmetic: some of his scholars were nearly twice his own age. As it was his father's wish he should follow the trade of a carpenter, he did so; but, when wasting his time in drawing and painting, as his father thought, his rude parent used sometimes to throw a hammer at him. At a very early age, young Opie having copied the picture of a farm yard, which hung in a neighbouring lady's parlour, his talents attracted the notice of the late Dr. Wolcott, better known by the name of Peter Pindar. As the doctor resided and practised physic in this part of the country, Opie became a constant inmate with him; and the doctor used to call him up at three in the morning, that he might commence his labours, and, through attention and perseverance, he was soon able to paint half-lengths for five shillings each, when he began to reap the fruits of his improvement. In the intervals of these pursuits, the doctor taught him the French language, and gave him instructions in the German flute; this was with a view of giving the young artist a little exterior polish; but in the latter he was not eminently successful. As Opie's fame increased, he gradually raised his price to a guinea; he also bought a horse, wore a ruffled shirt and cocked hat.

The doctor, at length, being pleased with the slow but growing excellence of his pupil, resolved to remove him to Exeter, the London of the West of England, where, his success being commensurate with his abilities, every thing seemed to point out the metropolis as the proper sphere in which he should move. As Dr. Wolcott had determined upon visiting the capital, in 1780 they both set off together, and, being unmarried, they, for some time, made a common purse, till Opie dissolved this kind of partnership. However, it was through the doctor that his pictures were shewn to Mrs. Boscawen, who introduced him to Mrs. Delaney, and this procured him an interview with their Majesties at Buckingham-house; the consequence was, that he immediately became popular, and his door was thronged with carriages, though he could never paint with the delicacy requisite for the exhibition of female loveliness.

In 1786, Opie was known as an exhibitor at Somerset-house, and ultimately obtained the rank of a royal academician. As he advanced in fame and fortune, he removed from an obscure court in Great Queen-street, thence to Berner's-street. His first marriage was unhappy, and the consequences were a lawsuit and separation from his wife. In 1798 he married Miss Alderson, the only daughter of Dr. Alderson, an eminent physician at Norwich, who had distinguished herself by some poetical productions, which she has since exceeded in a variety of publications.

The life of Sir Joshua Reynolds, in Pilkington's Dictionary, was written by Mr. Opie, as was also an "Inquiry into the requisite Cultivation of the Art of Design in England." At the establishment of the Royal Institution, he was chosen as lecturer on painting, and about the same time, elected professor of painting to the royal academy. Mr. Opie was just beginning to enjoy the well-earned fruits of his genius and labour, when an unexpected termination was put to his earthly career on the 9th of April, 1807, in the 46th year of his age, by a disease brought on by a cold. He was interred in St. Paul's cathedral, near Sir Joshua Reynolds, attended by almost all his professional friends.





## MARTIN LUTHER.

THIS eminent reformer and illustrious divine was born at Eisleben, in Saxony, in the year 1483. He studied at Erfurt, being designed for a civilian; but an awful catastrophe made such an impression on his mind, that he resolved to retire from the world. As he was walking in the fields with a fellow student, they were struck by lightning; Luther to the ground, and his companion dead by his side. He entered into the order of Augustin Monks, at Erfurt; and, from this place, removed to Wittenberg, being appointed by the Elector of Saxony professor of theology and philosophy, in the university just founded there by that prince.

In 1512 he was sent to Rome, to plead the cause of some convents of his order, who had quarrelled with their vicar-general. This gave him an opportunity of observing the intrigues of the pontifical court, and the debauched lives of the dignitaries of the church; and, probably, excited his disgust to the Romish ecclesiastical government. Upon his return to Wittenberg, it was remarked, that he grew unusually pensive, and more austere in his life and manners. He began to read and expound the sacred writings in lectures and sermons, and threw new lights on obscure passages. The minds of his auditors being thus prepared, a favourable opportunity soon offered for carrying into execution his grand plan of reformation. In 1517, Pope Leo X. published his indulgencies. Albert, Archbishop of Mentz and Magdeburgh, was commissioner for Germany, and was to have half the sum raised in that country; Tecelius, a Dominican friar, was deputed to collect, with others of his order, for Saxony, and he carried his zeal so far as to declare his commission to be so extensive, that no crime could be too great to be pardoned, as, by virtue of these indulgencies, not only past but future crimes were to be absolved. Against these infamous proceedings Luther openly preached, with wonderful success; and, being commanded to appear before the Diet of Worms, he presented himself there, notwithstanding the very terrible and recent example of John Huss, and behaved with dignity, simplicity, and firmness. Far from setting Rome at open defiance, he wrote submissively to the Pope, and exhibited no other appearance of superiority but that of his immense knowledge, beyond that of Cajetan, and the other theologians deputed to convert him. Afterwards, harassed with insults and outrages, and excommunicated by the Pope, he publicly threw the bull of anathema into the fire. One of his principal objects was to overturn the scholastic divinity, by banishing Aristotle from the domains of theology, and by demonstrating how much the first had been misunderstood, and the latter corrupted. In every encounter, he overwhelmed his opponents with his arguments and his wit, and covered their science with confusion and ridicule. When provoked, he was irritable, and carried his resentment to an unwarrantable length, in several instances. He was certainly courageous and disinterested; and, though he might have obtained a rich share of the possessions of the clergy, he lived and died in a state bordering on poverty, and left to his wife and children only the esteem due to his name.

This great character expired in the year 1546, in the 63rd year of his age, and was buried, with much funeral pomp, at Wittenberg, on the Elbe, in Upper Saxony; and subscriptions were raised on the continent, a few years since, for erecting a splendid monument to his memory. Whilst Luther was engaged in his opposition to the Romish church, he asserted the right of private judgment in matters of faith; but, it must be acknowledged, that no sooner had he freed his followers from the chains of papal domination, than he forged others, in many respects, equally intolerable.





## SIR ROBERT WALPOLE.

THIS memorable statesman was the third son of Sir Edward Walpole, and was born at Houghton, in Norfolk, on the 26th of August 1676. He received the first rudiments of his education at a private school at Massingham, and completed his education at Eton, under Dr. Roderick. On the death of his elder surviving brother, in 1698, on becoming heir to the paternal estate, he resigned his scholarship. In July 1700, he married, at Knightsbridge chapel, Catherine, daughter of Sir John Shorter, lord mayor of London; at the latter end of this year, his father dying, he inherited the family estate of 2000*l.* a year. Sir Robert, being soon after chosen member for Castle Rising, sat for that borough during the two last years of the reign of King William. His activity in the House of Commons, and the support he gave to the whigs, soon increased his consequence. He was appointed one of the council to Prince George of Denmark; and, after gaining Lord Godolphin over to his party, he was appointed secretary at war, and chosen manager for the impeachment of Dr. Sacheverel. Though courted by Harley, he resigned the office of secretary at war, supported Lord Godolphin, and justified the ministry against the intemperate reproach of the Commons, until he was expelled the House and committed to the Tower, in January 1712. The sitting of parliament was protracted by adjournments merely to keep Walpole in prison, and he was not released till the 8th of July; however, being again returned as a member, he published a history of the last parliament, and ably defended Mr. Steele.

Being appointed paymaster of the forces by George I. he moved the address to the King, reflecting on measures at the close of the late reign; he also moved for the impeachment of Bolingbroke, but opposed the attainder of Lord Oxford. His activity in opposing the rebellion in Scotland, in 1715, was soon followed by his appointment as first commissioner of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer.

Notwithstanding Sir Robert's support of the bill for septennial parliaments, and his favouring the acquisition of Bremen and Verden, he fell under the King's displeasure, and the intrigues of Stanhope and Sunderland induced him to resign; a measure which he defended, and then leagued with the tories in opposition. He afterwards procured the South Sea loan to be applied in aid of the sinking fund, opposed the war with Spain, and the quadruple alliance; but, eventually accepting the office of paymaster-general, he exerted himself in reconciling the King and the Prince of Wales in 1720. Soon after this his bill for the restoration of public credit passed into a law. In 1721, he was made first lord of the treasury and chancellor of the exchequer; but declined a peerage, which was conferred on his son, and in 1726 he was installed a knight of the bath and the garter. Though Sir Robert Walpole suffered a temporary disgrace on the accession of George II. he was not removed; but, being again appointed to his former situations, he procured an increase of the civil list and a jointure for the Queen. His revival of the salt duty, and his exertions for extending the excise, caused him to be attacked by the populace in returning from the House of Commons. In February 1742, he was created Baron Houghton Viscount Walpole and Earl of Orford, and resigned.

In 1745, having long been afflicted with the stone, the journey from Houghton, which he employed four days in performing, aggravated the symptoms, whilst a powerful solvent dissolved the stone; but, lacerating the bladder, he died on the 18th of March 1745, in the 69th year of his age. His remains were interred in the parish church at Houghton, without monument or inscription.





## DR. GILL.

THIS learned english nonconformist divine, of the baptist denomination, was born at Kettering, in Northamptonshire, in the year 1697. Being sent to a neighbouring grammar-school, he soon out-stript his companions in classical acquirements. At eleven years of age he had gone through the common school-books, and had read many of the chief Latin classics, besides making considerable proficiency in the Greek language. Before he was nineteen, he had read all the Greek and Latin authors that fell in his way; and, without any other assistance than Buxtorf's Lexicon and Grammar, had surmounted the chief difficulties in the Hebrew language, so as to be able to read the Hebrew Bible with great ease and pleasure. However, being educated in the tenets of Calvinism by his father, and having his mind under strong religious impressions, he was received into the communion of a baptist church at Kettering, in 1716, where he had not been long a member, before he begun preaching in private, and was soon afterwards called by the congregation to the occasional exercise of the ministry in public. In 1719, he was invited to become pastor of the baptist congregation in Horsly-down, London, and was ordained to that office in the twenty-second year of his age. The duties of this he performed during fifty-one years, pursuing his literary studies at the same time with wonderful assiduity. He also filled the office of a Wednesday-evening lecture nearly twenty-seven years.

In 1748, having published the third volume of his *Exposition of the New Testament*, the degree of doctor of divinity was conferred upon him by the Marischal College and University of Aberdeen, without his solicitation or privity, "on account of his knowledge of the scriptures, of the oriental languages, and his learned defence of the scriptures against deists and infidels." In 1767, Dr. Gill extracted, for Dr. Kennicott's use, the variations from the modern printed texts in the passages of the Old Testament, quoted in the Talmuds of Jerusalem and Babylon, and in the Rabboth. By his very laborious application, however, Dr. Gill, at length, brought on a decay of nature, to which he fell a sacrifice in 1721, in the 74th year of his age.

He was the author of an "Exposition of the Old and New Testament," in nine volumes folio, published at different periods from 1746 to 1766; "A body of divinity," 1769 and 1770, in three volumes quarto; "The cause of God and Truth," 1735, &c. in defence of Calvinism against the Arminians; "A Supplement to Mr. Whiston's late Essay towards restoring the true Text of the Old Testament," 1723, 8vo. intended to vindicate the divine authority and spiritual sense of Solomon's Song; "The Prophecies of the Old Testament respecting the Messiah, considered, and proved to be literally fulfilled in Jesus," 1728, 8vo. chiefly written in answer to "Collins's Scheme of Literal Prophecy considered;" a treatise "on the Doctrine of the Trinity," 1731, 8vo; "A dissertation on the Antiquity of the Hebrew Language, letters, vowel points, and accents," 1767, 8vo; together with numerous single sermons, controversial tracts on baptism, &c.—Dr. Gill's extensive knowledge of the Hebrew language and Rabbinical writings, it seems, were owing to some peculiar circumstances. A short time after his arrival in London, he became intimately acquainted with a dissenting Minister, who had obtained possession of a number of valuable writings from a Jewish teacher, his instructor in Hebrew, &c; and, upon the death of this gentleman, Mr. Gill purchased most of them. Having afterwards contracted an acquaintance with one of the most learned Jewish Rabbis, he read every thing that came in his way, and likewise made himself master of the other oriental languages, which, by their affinity, contribute to illustrate that of the Hebrew.





## BOILEAU.

THIS great master and ornament of French poetry was born in or near Paris in the year 1636. It was observed, that, till he was thirty years of age, his education for the bar seemed to have been bestowed to no purpose ; but at this period he appeared before the public as a writer of satires. These were followed by Epistles, after the manner of Horace, and one of these had the good fortune to please the King ; though, sometime before this, Boileau had composed his *Art of Poetry*. In 1674, he appeared as a master in the mock heroic ; his “*Lutrin*,” founded on a trifling dispute between the treasurer and chanter of the Holy Chapel, ranks among the first productions of this class. The King soon after allowed him a pension, gave him the privilege of printing his own works, and appointed him, conjointly with his friend Racine, “royal historiographer.” For some time Nicholas Boileau was a frequent attendant at court, where he preserved a respectable freedom of speech, especially when literature or men of letters were the topics. The King’s favour caused Boileau to be received into the French Academy in the year 1684 ; and his translation of Longinus on the Sublime occasioned him to be associated with the New Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres. After the death of Racine, he went very little to court, though the King had condescendingly told him he should always have an hour in the week to bestow on him. At length, Boileau ceased to pay visits, and admitted only a few friends, giving way in some degree to a misanthropical disposition. His conversation, however, had never been so caustic as his writings ; the former being mild, and sometimes heavy. He certainly abhorred flattery and hypocrisy, and defended public spectacles against the rigorous condemnation of some of his own friends. He was one of the few poets who have lived in easy circumstances, and practised a prudent economy. Though accused of avarice, he purchased at an advanced price the library of Patru, then in reduced circumstances, and left him the possession for life ; he also during his life-time gave to the poor all the revenues he had received from a benefice he enjoyed eight years without doing the duties of it ; and, dying of a dropsy in the breast, in 1711, at the age of 75, he bequeathed almost all his property to charitable uses.

The poetical character of Boileau may be appreciated with little hesitation. He is the poet of good sense, and perhaps no writer has ever composed so much, with so little to be erased or altered. Taste and judgement scarcely ever desert him : his versification is correct, his language choice and pure, his sentiments just and rational. In a letter to Helvetius, Voltaire speaks of him with the highest approbation. If enthusiasm be essential to a true poet, his claim must be disallowed : yet his works, however classed, are master-pieces of their kind, and can never die but with the language in which they are written. There are strong features of similarity between Boileau and Pope, with respect to the kind of their writings, and their specific excellence. But, with nearly an equal portion of wit, Boileau has much more delicacy and correctness, while Pope as much surpasses him in force and fancy : both abound in good sense, and each has enriched his language with nervous lines, that have passed into proverbial sentences. Besides the works of Boileau already mentioned, there are several smaller pieces in prose and verse. Various editions have been given of the whole, with critical and explanatory notes, and commentaries. The principal are, that of Geneva, 2 vols. quarto, 1716, with illustrations by Brossette ; that of the Hague, with Picart’s figures and notes, 2 vols. folio, 1718, and 4 vols. 1722 ; that by Allix, with Cochin’s figures, 2 vols. quarto, 1740 ; and that of Durand, with illustrations by St. Marc, 5 vols. 8vo. 1747.





## BONNET.

THIS eminent naturalist was born at Geneva in 1720, in a family originally from France ; but, disliking dry grammatical studies, his father provided him with a domestic tutor. He was, however, his own happiest instructor. At the age of sixteen, the *Spectacle de la Nature* of the Abbé Pluche, having fallen into his hands, he was so captivated, that he immediately began to inquire into the nature of insects himself. His attachment to natural history was strongly excited by the perusal of Reaumur's admirable Memoir, and he corresponded with this great man.

Being intended for the law, it was with extreme reluctance that young Bonnet went through some of the elementary books, and in May 1740, as he had determined a question left unsettled by Reaumur, and his paper being communicated to the Academy of Sciences at Paris, this obtained him the honour of letters of correspondence. He carried his researches to such minuteness, as to injure his eye-sight in a manner irreparable. Upon the multifarious division of worms, the mode of respiration of caterpillars and butterflies, and his discoveries respecting the tenia or tape-worm, he was raised to the rank of doctor of laws, and soon after became a member of the Royal Society of London.

In 1744, he published his observations on aphides and worms, under the title of "*Insectology*." In 1746 he began a course of experiments on the vegetation of plants in moss and other singular substances : his inquiries into the leaves of plants followed next, being printed at Leyden, in quarto, in the year 1754. After a labour of more than five years, he produced his "*Analytical Essay on the Faculties of the Soul*," printed in Copenhagen, in 1760, in quarto, at the expense of the King of Denmark. In 1756, he had married a lady of the old and respectable family of De la Rive, and with her he passed thirty-seven years of that perfect union which results from mutual tenderness directed by good sense and virtue. The celebrated Saussure was the nephew of Madam Bonnet. In 1762, his "*Consideration on Organized Bodies*," appeared at Amsterdam, in two volumes, octavo. His "*Contemplation of Nature*," which appeared in 1764, at Amsterdam, in two volumes, octavo, was a work certainly meant for popular use : it has been translated into most of the European languages, and enriched with notes by several hands, as well as by the author himself, in a new edition. Bonnet's concluding work was his "*Palin-génésie Philosophique*," printed at Geneva, in 1769, two volumes, octavo, treating on the past and future state of living beings, and which supports the idea of the survival of all animals, and the perfecting of their faculties in a future state. Attached to this work is an "*Inquiry into the Evidences of the Christian Revelation and the Doctrines of Christianity*," which, with a piece "*On the Existence of God*," was published separately at Geneva, in 1770.

Having closed his account with philosophy in 1773, he sent to Rozier's *Journal*, a memoir on the method of preserving insects and fish in cabinets, and in 1774, he sent to the same journal, a "*Memoir on the Loves of Plants*." His literary correspondence was numerous. The last twenty-five years of his life he passed entirely in the country, in a simple and uniform mode of living, happy in an easy competence, and in a small circle of friends. His works, in a collected state, were published at Neufchatel, in nine volumes, quarto, and in eighteen volumes, octavo : they are all written in French. In 1788, Bonnet's feeble constitution began to give way ; a dropsy in the breast gradually increased upon him, and at the age of 73, he was released by death, on the 20th of May 1793. Public honours were rendered to his remains by his fellow citizens, and his funeral eulogy was pronounced by his illustrious friend and kinsman M. de Saussure.





*Holl sculp.*

## PHILIP DORMER STANHOPE, EARL OF CHESTERFIELD.

THIS arbiter of elegant manners was born in London, in 1694. He received his education at Trinity College, Cambridge. In the first parliament of George I. he was elected a burgess for St. Germans, in Cornwall; and in the next, for Lestwithiel, in the same county. In 1715, he stood foremost among those who loyally tendered their lives and fortunes to oppose the pretender; and in 1723, he was appointed captain of the yeomen of the guard. He had more or less distinguished himself from his first entrance into parliament; but, becoming earl of Chesterfield, on the death of his father in 1726, he entered the house of lords, in the ranks of the opposition. After the accession of George II. he was sworn of the privy council, and in 1728, appointed ambassador extraordinary to Holland, the Hague being the centre of the principal negotiations then carrying on through Europe. Upon his return, in 1730, he was elected a knight of the garter, and appointed steward of the household. Soon after 1732, he married lady Melosina de Schulenberg, countess of Walsingham, and natural daughter of George I. by the duchess of Kendal.

In the general course of his conduct in parliament, he only opposed administration when he was convinced that their measures militated against the honour and interest of his country. In 1737, he gave great offence to the court, by voting in favour of an address to his majesty, requesting him to settle 100,000*l.* per annum upon the prince of Wales.

In 1741, his health being much impaired, he visited Spa, and saw Voltaire, with whom he had contracted a friendship in England: he went to Paris, and to the South of France. At the beginning of 1745, being again nominated ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the states general, he embarked for the Hague. His mission was successful; and, in the mean while, his majesty appointed him lord lieutenant of Ireland. In April 1746, he left that country, equally esteemed by the Roman Catholics and Protestants, and followed by the universal regret of that generous nation.

In October ensuing, being pressed to take the seals, and to succeed the earl of Harrington, as secretary of state, he held them till February 1748, when he wished to resign; on which his majesty said, "I will not press you, my lord, to continue in an office you are tired of; but I must insist upon seeing you often, for you will ever live in my esteem." His senatorial exertions, after this period, were few, but always important.

By his wife, Lord Chesterfield had no issue; but he had a natural son, Philip, by Madame de Bouchet, a French lady, whilst he was at the Hague. Upon this young man his care and attention were bestowed, to a degree of idolatry; and though he did not possess the graces, his integrity, and other valuable qualities, fitted him for several diplomatic situations. Residing mostly abroad, he was carried off by a dropsy, in the South of France, in November 1768, when his afflicted father first learnt he had been secretly married several years, and had left two children, whom the earl, to his honour, immediately took upon himself the care of providing for.

The British Cicero, as his lordship was called, died at Chesterfield House, near Grosvenor Square, March 24, 1773; and, according to his desire, was buried privately in the vault under South Audley chapel. His lordship's literary character was certainly high, notwithstanding his conduct towards Dr. Johnson; and his Letters to his Son, which though partially condemned, have been universally read. These were published by that gentleman's widow, after his lordship's death; and even Dr. Johnson allowed they might be made a very pretty book.





## THOMAS WARTON.

THE laureat of this name, the son of the poetry professor of the same name at Oxford, was born at Basingstoke in 1728; and in the ninth year of his age, his translation of an epigram, from Martial, sufficiently distinguished his taste. In 1743, he was admitted a commoner of Trinity College, Oxford, where, in his twenty-first year, he published his "Triumph of Isis," in vindication of the university against Mason's "Elegy of Isis." "The Progress of Discontent" he wrote as a college exercise, in the year 1746. In 1750, he took his degree of M. A. and became, in the following year, a fellow of his college: from this period he seems to have formed his determination to reside at the university, and to devote himself to poetry and elegant literature. Besides his "New-market," a spirited satire against the ruinous passion for the turf, his "Ode for Music," "Verses on the Death of the Prince of Wales," and his editorship, in 1753, of a collection of poems, called the "Union," the latter containing many of his own pieces, severally contributed to increase his fame.

His "Observations on Spenser's Fairy Queen," published in 1754, were of essential service in recommending him as a critic, and prepared the way for his election in 1757, to the office of professor of poetry to the university, which he occupied ten years. Having taken the degree of B. D. in 1761, he was instituted to the small living of Kidding-ton, in Oxfordshire, in 1771. His edition of "Theocritus," in 2 vols. quarto, was published in 1770, and very much contributed to his literary celebrity. About this time, it is supposed, he formed the design of writing a "History of Poetry," three volumes of which appeared between 1774 and 1781. In the latter year he proposed a county history of Oxfordshire, but was probably discouraged by the difficulties that presented themselves. At this time he also took a part in the controversy respecting Rowley's Poems; and his income, about the same period, was increased by a donative in Somersetshire, and, in 1785, by the office of Camden Professor of History at Oxford. Soon after this, he accepted of the king's offer of the post of poet laureat, for the purpose of rendering it respectable. He next undertook an edition of "Milton's Juvenile Poems," with notes; the first appeared in 1785, and the second in 1791, a little while before his death. In his 62d year he was attacked with a paroxysm of the gout, and this was followed, in May 1790, by a paralytic seizure, which terminated his life at his lodgings at Oxford. His remains were interred in the chapel of Trinity College.

Although his character was marked by some peculiarities, he is said to have been substantially good humoured, friendly, and placid. Several editions of his poems appeared in his life time; and since his death, an edition of his works has been given by Mr. Mant, in 2 vols. 8vo. 1802, to which is prefixed, a biographical account of the author. The laureat and Oxford poetry professor was fond of music, and loved to be talking and writing on the subject; and in his history of poetry, has kept back nothing which he accidentally found in the course of his other inquiries. As Milton's minor productions perhaps delight the generality of his readers more than his sublime epics, so the ballads and smaller pieces of T. Warton were in more general favour than those of length, upon graver subjects, which had cost him more meditation and midnight oil. He was succeeded as laureat by Henry James Pye, esq.

Dr. Johnson was so partial to the criticisms of Mr. Thomas Warton, that he praised the notes written by this gentleman "upon his poet," and at the same time sent him more of his plays, requesting more notes on Shakespeare.





## THOMAS PENNANT.

THIS eminent traveller, naturalist, and antiquary, was born June 14, 1726, at Downing, in Flintshire, the seat of his family for several generations. He was educated first at Wrexham, then at Mr. Croft's school at Fulham, and last at Queen's and Oriel Colleges, Oxford, where, however, he took no degree, but was complimented with that of LL. D. in 1771, long after he had left the university. Having manifested a very early taste for natural history in general, in 1746-7, he made a tour into Cornwall, where he contracted a strong taste for minerals and fossils. His first production that appeared in the *Philosophical Transactions*, was a letter to his uncle, John Mytton, esq. on an earthquake felt at Downing, in April 1752. In 1754, he was elected a fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, which honour he resigned in 1760. In 1757, he was elected of the Royal Society of Upsal, through the interest of the celebrated Linnæus, which he called the first and greatest of his literary honours. In 1761, he began his "*British Zoölogy*;" the profits he devoted to the Welsh Charity school.

In 1765, he made a short tour to the Continent, and visited Buffon, Voltaire, Baron Haller, the two Gesners, and Dr. Trew, at Nuremberg. In 1767, after his return, he was elected Fellow of the Royal Society. In 1769, he added a third volume to his *Zoölogy*, on the reptiles and fishes of Great Britain; and about the close of the year 1770, published his "*Tour in Scotland*," in 1 vol. 8vo. with plates, in which he laboured earnestly and laudably to conciliate the affections of the two nations, so wickedly set at variance by designing persons. In May 1772, he began the longest of his journeys in our island, being his second tour in Scotland and voyage to the Hebrides, and in the year following, he published his "*Genera of Birds*." In 1775, appeared his third and last volume of the "*Tour in Scotland*," performed in 1772. After several journeys over the six counties of North Wales, he published the first volume of them in the form of a tour, in 1778, and the second in 1781, under the title of "*A Journey to Snowdon*." In the year following, his "*Journey from London to Chester*" appeared, and in 1784, his "*Arctic Zoölogy*," and in 1790, he published his "*Account of London*." In 1793, he published his life, under the whimsical title of "*The Literary Life of the late Thomas Pennant, esq. by himself*," intending to write no more; but in 1797, his "*History of the Parishes of Whiteford and Holywell*" appeared; and in the last year of his life, he gave the public his "*View of Hindostan*," 2 vols. 4to. His death took place in December 1798, leaving his character as a son, husband, and father, irreproachable.

In his principles he was a Whig of the old school: he married first the sister of the late Thomas Falconer, esq. by whom he had a son and a daughter, and secondly, Miss Mostyn, who survived him. His son, since his father's death, has published the third and fourth volumes of the "*Outlines of the Globe*," and his last work, entitled a "*Journey from London to the Isle of Wight*." Mr. Pennant was not only an honest and useful magistrate among his Welsh neighbours, but a kind master to his dependents and his confidential servants, not being one that withheld his generous attentions till the objects of his relief were unable to receive the benefit of them. Dr. Johnson said of Mr. Pennant, when some objections were made to his tours, "that he had greater variety of inquiry than almost any man, and has told us more perhaps than one in ten thousand could have done in the time that he took." He will, undoubtedly, be long remembered with gratitude by the lovers of nature and science.





## DR. MATTHEW HENRY.

THIS learned English nonconformist divine was born at Broad Oak, in Flintshire, in the year 1663, and was early distinguished for his seriousness and piety, and the avidity he discovered for the acquisition of knowledge. He was initiated in grammar learning, in his father's house, under the care of an ejected minister, and when eighteen years of age had become expert not only in Greek, but also in the Hebrew language, and had made no inconsiderable progress in other branches of learning, human and divine. The study of the scriptures, in particular, had already become his very frequent and delightful employment. He was afterwards sent to an academy for the education of young persons for the ministry, kept by Mr. Thomas Doolittle, at Islington, near London, where he applied to his studies with uncommon diligence and proportionate improvement. When he had continued in this seminary two years, his tutor was compelled by the cruel persecutions of the times to disperse his pupils among private families. Mr. Henry returned to his father's house, and continued there in a course of studious application till the year 1685, when, by the advice of a friend, he went to Gray's Inn, London, with a design of studying the law. Here he became acquainted with the civil and the municipal laws of his country; and it was the opinion, says Mr. Tong, of many that conversed with him, "that his great industry, quick apprehension, good judgement, tenacious memory, and ready delivery, would have rendered him very eminent in practice, if he had betaken himself to the law as a profession:" but he was true to his first and early resolution; and, therefore, while he was at Gray's Inn, he not only promoted social prayer and religious conference, but would sometimes expound the scriptures. During this time he attended the ministry of the most celebrated preachers in town, and was best pleased with Dr. Stillingfleet for his serious practical preaching, and with Dr. Tillotson for his excellent discourses against popery, preached at St. Lawrence, Jewry.

In 1686, Mr. Henry returned from Broad Oak, and soon afterwards began to preach frequently as a candidate for the office of the ministry, with great acceptance and encouragement. In the following year he was invited to settle as pastor with a congregation of dissenters at Chester, where he soon found himself very agreeably situated. He was an early riser, being often in his study at five in the morning; and was, in every sense, the most indefatigable pastor. During the twenty-five years that he spent at Chester, he received repeated invitations from different bodies of protestant dissenters in London, but rejected them all. In the year 1712, however, he was prevailed upon, though most reluctantly, to remove to Hackney, where, besides discharging the duties of his office, he took a large share in occasional services at different meeting-houses in London and its neighbourhood. He had been employed in lectures every day in the week, and sometimes twice or thrice on the same day. These, and the closeness of his application, brought on severe fits of the stone; though he died of a seizure of apoplexy at Nantwich, in Cheshire, when he had only reached the fifty-second year of his age. He was twice married, and left seven children. He was an eloquent and pathetic preacher of the Calvinistic school, and his life and manners were unblamable.

His greatest work consists of "Expositions on the Bible," in five volumes folio, of which, four contain the Old Testament, and the fifth the Evangelists and the Acts of the Apostles. He intended to have finished the New Testament in another volume, but lived only to get through part of the Romans, which was afterwards finished by Dr. Evans.





*H. G. sculp.*

## BISHOP WARBURTON.

THIS lordly prelate was the son of an attorney at Newark upon Trent, where he was born, in the year 1698, and intended by his father for his own profession : having finished his ordinary grammar education, he was articled to an attorney at East Markham, in Nottinghamshire. Afterwards admitted in one of the courts of Westminster, he returned to Newark, and commenced the exercise of his profession ; but feeling greater inclination to the church than to the law, in 1723 he took deacon's orders. His first work published was " Miscellaneous Translations in Prose and Verse," from Roman authors, to which was prefixed a Latin Dedication to sir George Sutton, who, in 1726, presented him to a small vicarage. Towards the close of this year, visiting London, he became acquainted with some of the inferior literati of those times, and particularly with Theobald, and joined him and others, celebrated in the *Dunciad*, against Pope.

In 1727, he evinced his ability for original writing, by his " Critical and Philosophical Inquiry into the Causes of Prodigies and Miracles, as related by Historians, with an Essay towards restoring a Method and Purity in History, in which the characters of the most celebrated Writers of every age, and of the several stages and species of History, are occasionally criticised and explained," dedicated to sir Robert Sutton, his first patron, by whose interest he was placed on the list of king's masters of arts ; and by this academical degree, he supplied the defects in his education. His next presentation was to the living of Broad Broughton, in Lincolnshire, where he remained some years.

In 1736, appeared his well known work, " the Alliance between Church and State ; or, the Necessity and Equity of an established Religion and a Test Law," &c. designed to vindicate our present happy constitution, on a principle of right : however, this elaborate work, though it passed through several editions, neither satisfied the high church party, nor the advocates for greater liberty. In 1738, Mr. Warburton's favourite work, " the Divine Legation of Moses," appeared, when, undismayed by the many opponents this met with, he published a Vindication ; and, in a second edition of the former, he professed to have omitted passages " which were thought vain, insolent, and ill-natured." Wishing to regain the good opinion of Mr. Pope, he published, in the " Works of the Learned," a Defence of his Essay on Man, against the remarks of M. de Crousaz : whatever was his design, an intimacy commenced between them. In the course of 1741, he was introduced by Pope to Mr. Allen, at his house near Bath, where he was afterwards a frequent visitor. He was now rapidly advancing from one stage of preferment to another ; from that of prebend of Gloucester, obtained in 1753, to that of king's chaplain in ordinary, in 1754 ; and in 1755, he exchanged his prebend of Durham for that of Gloucester, and had the honour of a Lambeth degree of D.D. conferred upon him, by archbishop Herring ; to the deanery of Bristol, in 1757 ; and in 1759, to the see of Gloucester, at which place he terminated his long and laborious life, on the 7th of June 1779.

His works were collected and printed by Dr. Hurd, bishop of Worcester, in 1788, in seven vols. 4to. He was a man of vigorous faculties, with a fervid and vehement mind, supplied by incessant and unlimited inquiry. His abilities gave him a haughty consequence, which he disdained to correct or mollify ; and his impatience under opposition, disposed him to treat his adversaries with such contemptuous superiority, as made his readers commonly his enemies, and excited against the advocate the wishes of some who favoured the cause. His diction is coarse and impure, and his sentences are unmeasured.





*Holl sculp*

## THOMAS, LORD FAIRFAX.

THIS active general of the parliament army, during the civil wars, was the eldest son of Ferdinando, Lord Fairfax; and born at Denton in Yorksbire, in 1611. He commenced his military career under lord Vere, in Holland; and when the differences between the king and parliament broke out into hostilities, he took a decided part in favour of the latter, being, as well as his father, a zealous Presbyterian. He had a principal command in the north, where he and his father were defeated in several engagements, particularly at Adderston Moor, in June 1643. Afterwards, sir Thomas had better fortune, and distinguished himself so greatly at the battle of Marston Moor, that, in the new modelling the army, he was nominated general, in the room of the earl of Essex. In 1645, he defeated the king's forces at Naseby, after which he marched into the west, where he subdued a number of places. The seizing the king at Holmby, in 1647, by Cornet Joyce, was entirely without sir Thomas's knowledge or consent, who immediately sent two regiments of horse to remove the restraint imposed on the king; and soon after upon his majesty, in order to persuade him to return to Holmby: but the king refused, telling him that he had as great an interest in the army as himself. Though in this he found himself fatally deceived, for he was, soon after, again seized by the same persons, and brought to trial.

In 1648, sir Thomas became Lord Fairfax by the death of his father, and the same year he took Colchester, after a brave resistance by sir George Lisle and sir Charles Lucas, whom the parliament, after the surrender, basely caused to be put to death, refusing to ratify the treaty of lord Fairfax.

Some assert that he was kept ignorant of the principal transactions previous to the king's death; and he in vain used his utmost exertions to defer the execution for a few days, without coming to an open rupture with the regicides. At the time of execution, it is said he was engaged in prayer, by major Harrison.

No longer entering into all the violent measures of the parliament and army, the remaining part of the former, at length resumed the commission they had given him, and he lived in retirement, at his seat at Nunn Appleton, Yorkshire, till the restoration; which event he always earnestly wished, and was fully resolved to seize the first opportunity to forward it. Accordingly, as soon as he was invited by General Monck to assist him against Lambert's army, he cheerfully assented, and appeared at the head of a body of gentlemen of Yorkshire. Owing to his influence with the army, the Irish brigade, of twelve hundred horse, forsook Lambert, and joined him; by this means Lambert was soon entirely deserted, and general Monck made an easy march into England. After this, he waited on the king in Holland, as one of the commissioners sent to invite him home.

When he had seen the king completely established on the throne, he retired again to his country seat, where he died, on the 12th of November 1671, in the sixtieth year of his age, leaving behind him a daughter, married to George, duke of Buckingham. He was eminent for his piety, integrity, and invincible courage, joined with the greatest modesty and good nature. He was also a zealous friend to learning; a remarkable instance of which he gave, upon the surrender of Oxford to the parliament forces under his command, when he took the utmost care for the preservation of the public library there, which had suffered in several respects, while that city had been garrisoned by the royal party.





## WILLIAM MASON.

THIS classical poet, the son of a respectable clergyman, in the East Riding of Yorkshire, was born in 1725. He received his first grammatical instructions under his paternal roof. His studies, preparatory to his going to college, were rather favourable to classical than philosophical pursuits; and he had an early passion for poetry and painting. He was entered at St. John's college, Cambridge, when Dr. Newcombe was master. Though Mr. Mason did not devote himself much to mathematics, the favorite study at Cambridge, yet his merit procured him the esteem of his tutor, Mr. Powell, to whose advice it was owing, that *Musæus* was published first in the order of Mason's poems. While an under graduate, our poet was distinguished by a studious cast of thought, though by no means destitute of social manners, or reckoned an indefatigable student. While at St. John's college, he took his bachelor's and master of arts' degrees, but never advanced further. He left St. John's in 1746, and returned to his father.

In the year 1747, principally through the influence of Gray, he was nominated to a vacant fellowship in Pembroke-hall; but, owing to a dispute between the masters and fellows, he was not elected till 1749. His poetical taste had first introduced him to Gray, and his monody on the death of Pope, written in 1744, but not published till 1747, was submitted to Mr. Gray's correcting hand. His acquaintance with Gray soon grew into a warm friendship, which only terminated with the life of the latter.

Mason was not more distinguished for his other amiable qualities than by his attachment to the cause of liberty. He soon obtained considerable reputation as a poet; and when the Duke of Newcastle was installed chancellor of the university in 1749, he was requested to compose an ode on the occasion, which was set to music by Dr. Boyce, and performed in the senate-house. The year after the death of his father in 1753, he went into orders, and found a patron in the Earl of Holderness, through whose influence he was advanced to the chaplainship of the living of Aston, which was of considerable value. This retreat was peculiarly agreeable to our poet. It brought him to reside in his native country, and placed him in a genteel independence. As a preacher he was generally admired, and, among his parishioners, much esteemed. When appointed precentor of York, he composed a book on church music, which was of use to his parishioners, to whom he presented an organ. It was, perhaps, to the picturesque scenery of this agreeable spot, that we are indebted for his "*English Garden*," as it called into action that poetic imagination which he was accustomed to indulge from his early youth.

In his matrimonial connection he was unfortunate, being deprived of a young and amiable wife two years after his marriage. Her health was but indifferent from the first; but, falling into a rapid consumption, Mason went with her to Bristol Hot Wells, where she died in 1767. Besides various odes, he published several dramatic works; in his *Elfrida* and *Caractacus*, it was his ambition to steer between the irregularity of Shakespeare and the classical severity of Milton: the success of these two pieces was beyond his most sanguine expectations; nor was the fame of his various elegies much less gratifying. Towards the close of his life, his language was changed; and, vindicating the measures of Mr. Pitt, Lord Orford observes, he became a kind of courtier. He produced his annual sonnet till the last year of his life, when his foot slipped as he was getting into his carriage, and a contusion being received that terminated in a mortification, he expired in April 1797, in the seventy-second year of his age.





## KOTZEBUE.

THIS celebrated genius was the son of a counsellor of legation at Weimar, in Saxony, and was born at that place in 1761. Being strictly educated, he was appointed, at the age of twenty, private secretary to General Baur in the Russian service, and was, through him, recommended to the empress Catherine, who employed him to compose some pieces for the theatre of "The Hermitage." After marrying a Russian young lady of noble family, he rose rapidly to the post of President of the Civil Government of Revel, and was decorated with several orders; but the independence of his mind induced him to give in his resignation in 1795, and soon after he accepted the office of Director of the Theatre at Vienna. Not satisfied with this appointment, he returned to Russia in the Spring of 1800, when he was arrested on the frontier, and conducted to Siberia, where he remained till the emperor Paul recalled him, and loaded him with marks of kindness. After travelling in France, Italy, and Germany, he undertook a journal at Berlin; but, offending Buonaparte, he withdrew to a small estate in Esthonia.

After the war betwixt Russia and France, Kotzebue took an active part in the manifestoes and diplomatic notes of that period, and was rewarded by the emperor Alexander in 1813, in being appointed Consul General at Koningsberg, and afterwards to the department of Foreign Affairs in 1816, with the title of Counsellor of State. Russia not being suited to his weak state of health, he obtained leave to travel, in the year 1817, and was continued in all his appointments, without the emperor's imposing any condition, but making him reports on the state, literary, political, and moral, of the country where he resided. Being informed of the fanatical rage excited against him on that account in the German universities, he resolved upon leaving Mannheim and returning to Russia, when an assassination of the most enthusiastic kind terminated his life, in the fifty-eighth year of his age. The perpetrator of this daring act was a Mr. Charles Sandt, son of a counsellor of justice at Wunsiedel. Presenting himself, in the beginning of March 1819, at the house of M. Kotzebue, he was shewn into a room by a servant, where his victim shortly joined him, but had scarcely entered, when the servant heard a loud shriek, and a fall; and, going in, saw his master and the assassin stretched on the floor. A poniard, it seems, had penetrated the heart of M. Kotzebue, who, dragging the murderer down upon him, received another stah through the lungs; a third wound was received in the face: his daughter, being alarmed, rushed in, and, with some other ladies, bore the body of her father to an adjoining apartment, where he expired in a few minutes. The assassin rose up with an air of composure, and flourishing the bloody poniard, exclaimed, "The traitor is dead! the country is saved! long live Germany!" Seeing himself observed, he exclaimed "Yes, I am the murderer. It is thus all traitors ought to perish." He then knelt down amidst the increasing crowd, and raising his hands and eyes to heaven, exclaimed, "God, I thank thee for having permitted me to accomplish this act." After this, he opened his bosom, plunged the poniard in his heart, and fell without any signs of life. As the wound, however, was not mortal, he spoke of the assassination, at the hospital, with a kind of extacy.

M. Kotzebue was twice married, and has left fourteen children; the eldest a captain in the Austrian service. M. Otto de Kotzebue, a lieutenant of a vessel in the Russian service, another son, has rendered himself conspicuous by a voyage round the world. His brother Maurice, an officer in the Russian army, has published an account of the Russian embassy to Persia, to which he was attached.





## LORD KAIMES.

THIS eminent Scotch judge was born in the county of Berwick in 1696. He received his early education under a private tutor in his father's house, and at a proper age pursued the study of the law at the University of Edinburgh. He for some time attended the chamber of a writer to the signet. The acuteness of his genius and the success with which he applied to professional studies were displayed by a number of publications on the civil and Scotch law; the first of these, in 1728, was "Remarkable Decisions of the Court of Session," which in 1741 he augmented into an abridged and digested view of all the decisions of the same court, in the form of a dictionary, two volumes folio. His "Essays upon several Subjects in Law," in 1732, exhibited him as an original thinker upon those topics. During the troubles of 1745, he took refuge in a country retreat, where he laid the plan of his "Essays upon several Subjects concerning British Antiquities," octavo, which appeared in 1747. In 1757, he published "The Statute Law of Scotland abridged," with historical notes, octavo; and, in 1759, "Historical Law Tracts, or fourteen separate treatises." In 1760, he published "Principles of Equity," folio; and, in 1780, he gave additional Collections of Decisions of the Court of Session.

In 1752, he had been advanced to the bench of judges of that court; on which promotion, according to the custom of Scotland, he took the title of Lord Kaimes. In 1752, he had published "Essays on the Principles of Morality and Natural Religion", and had carried on a correspondence with Bishops Berkeley and Butler upon metaphysical subjects. His "Introduction to the Art of Thinking," 12mo. 1761, is accounted a valuable work for young persons. It consists of maxims and general observations on human nature, and the conduct of life, illustrated by examples. In 1762, Lord Kaimes became known to the admirers of polite literature by an elaborate work, in which he endeavoured to lay down a system of laws on the critical art. "Elements of Criticism," three volumes octavo, is a truly original performance, which, discarding all arbitrary rules of literary composition derived from authority, establishes a new theory upon the principles of human nature. It was well received by the public. In 1773, appeared the fruits of considerable labour, in "Sketches of the History of Man," two volumes quarto. Some of the examples here are drawn from suspected sources. In 1777, he published "The Gentleman Farmer;" in consequence of his obtaining the estate of Blair Drummond in the right of his wife: this was an attempt to improve agriculture, by subjecting it to rational principles.

The habit of writing attended him to the very close of his life, and in 1781 he published an octavo volume under the title of "Loose Hints upon Education." He did not long survive, dying in December 1782, at the age of eighty-six.

Lord Kaimes was much distinguished by his veracity in conversation, and to a very advanced age was the life of all companies, where he made his appearance. He was particularly fond of the society of elegant females, whom he sometimes addressed in a style of warmth, not always compatible with the dignity of the judicial character. Indeed, even on the bench, he is said to have been carried away by the fire of his animal spirits. He was, however, a man of kind and amiable dispositions; and, notwithstanding the freedom of his speculations, was a constant friend to morality, habitually pious. In all his works he assiduously traces final causes, and adduces them as proofs of the wisdom and goodness of the Creator. He was also remarkable for public spirit, to which he added activity and great exertion.





## DR. KING.

DR. WILLIAM KING, son of the Rev. Peregrine King, was born at Stepney, in Middlesex, in 1685, and after a school education at Salisbury, was entered of Baliol College, Oxford, July 9, 1701. Proceeding in the study of the law, he took his doctor's degree in 1715; was secretary to the Duke of Ormond and the Earl of Arran, when chancellors of the university, and was made principal of St. Mary Hall in 1718. When he was candidate for the university in 1722, he resigned the office of secretary, but his other preferment he enjoyed, and it was all he did enjoy till the time of his death. Dr. Clarke, who opposed him, carried his election, and after this disappointment, in 1727, he went over to Ireland. During his stay here, he is said to have written an epic poem, called "The Toast," bearing the name of Scheffer, a Laplander, as its author, and of Peregrine O'Donald, esq. as its translator: this was a political satire, and was printed and given away to friends, but never sold. Dr. Warton thought the Countess of Newburgh was aimed at in this production.

On the dedication of Radcliffe's library in 1749, Dr. King spoke a Latin oration in the theatre at Oxford, which was received with the highest acclamations by a splendid auditory. Mr. Warton, in the "Triumphs of Isis," pays him a very great compliment on that occasion. But this oration, which was soon after printed, did not meet with the favourable reception expected from the public. In several pamphlets the author was attacked and charged with writing barbarous Latin, with being disaffected to government, and with instigating the younger members of the university to sedition and licentiousness; heavy accusations, and in a great measure dictated by malevolence and party zeal. Again, in 1755, the memorable election in Oxfordshire, his attachment to the old interest drew on him the resentment of the new. He was libelled in newspapers and pamphlets; and charged with the following particulars:—that he was an Irishman; that he had received a subscription for books never published, to the amount of more than 1000*l.*; that he had offered himself to sale both in England and Ireland, and was not found worth the purchase; that he was the writer of "The London Evening Post;" the author of a book in Queen Anne's reign, entitled "Political Considerations, 1710," in which there was false English; and of another, just then published, called "The Dreamer."

In 1754, he published his "Apology," in quarto, and plausibly vindicated himself from all the charges, except the last article, namely that he was the author of "The Dreamer." He was the author of "Miltoni Epistola ad Pollionem (Lord Polwarth) Sermo Pedestris Scamnum Ecloga Templum Libertatis," in three books; "Tres Oriatiunculæ Epistola Objurgatana Antonietta Ducis Corscorum Epistoli ad Corscos de Rege eligendo Eulogium Jacci Etonensis Aviti Epistole ad Perillam, Virgum Scotum Oriatiunculæ habita in domo Convocationis Oxon, cum Epistola dedicatoria." Besides these, he published the first five volumes of Dr. South's Sermons. He was known and esteemed by the first men of his time for wit and learning, and was allowed to have been a polite scholar, an elegant and easy writer, both in Latin and English. He died Dec. 30, 1763, having sketched his own character in an elegant epitaph, which was to have been engraved on a silver case, in which he directed his heart should be preserved in some part of St. Mary's Hall; but the inscription is on a marble tablet in the chapel of St. Mary's Hall, and he was buried in Ealing Church.—"Polite and Literary Anecdotes of his Own Times," a posthumous work, lately published, contains an interesting representation of his character and connexions.





## GESNER.

THIS eminent pastoral poet and landscape painter was born in 1730, at Zurich, in Switzerland. His father, a bookseller and printer, brought him up to his own business, but did not neglect giving him a liberal education. At the age of twenty-two he made a tour through Germany, when the acquaintance of many of the German literati stimulated the passion he had already imbibed for letters; and soon after his return, in 1753, he published a short poem in measured prose, entitled "Night." This was followed by his pastoral romance of "Daphnis," in three cantos. They were both favourably received, and were judged to display great talents for rich description and tender sentiment, though marked with the exuberances and irregularities of juvenile fancy. Some of the fictions in these pieces shewed him to be an imitator of the manner of Ovid; but his maturer taste led him to a strain of simplicity, and a natural style of painting. His Idyls were greatly admired in all the countries where their language was native, and brought a large addition to the author's reputation, which was completely crowned by the appearance of his "Death of Abel," which came out in 1758. In this piece the dignity of a religious epic, like the *Paradise Lost*, is attempted to be united with the simplicity and sweetness of pastoral. Its success was highly flattering; besides the repeated editions it underwent at Zurich in the original, it was translated into most of the European languages; and with us was more popular among religious readers than among persons of a refined literary taste. "The First Navigator" is one of the most admired of Gesner's minor poems. His merits, however, became first known to Frederick of Prussia, through the recommendation of the English envoy at Berlin.

He also tried his powers in the pastoral drama, but with no extraordinary success. Almost all his poetical productions were the product of his youth, or written before he had completed his thirtieth year. About that period he married the daughter of Mr. Heidegger, a gentleman who possessed a valuable collection of paintings of the Flemish school, and this circumstance gave a new turn to his pursuits. He had at an early age learned to draw, and acquired some attachment to the art of design. This was now revived, and he began seriously to attempt imitating what he admired. In a "Letter on Landscape Painting," he has given an instructive account of the steps by which he was led to a proficiency in that art. For some time he only ventured upon the decorations of books printed at his office, but at length he attained more confidence; and, in 1765, published ten landscapes, etched and engraved as well as designed by himself. Twelve others appeared in 1769, and he continued to execute ornaments for the works that issued from his press; and he obtained a distinguished place among the votaries of the fine arts in Switzerland, as recorded in the historical essay of his countryman, Mr. Füssli.

In his private character, Gesner displayed all that gentleness, sensibility, and benevolence, which breathes in his writings. He was modest, sincere, unaffected, and exemplary in every relation of life. His fellow citizens manifested their esteem for him by gradually advancing him to the first offices of the Republic, all of which he discharged with great diligence and integrity. He received from various parts of Europe testimonies of the respect and admiration he inspired, and the Empress Catharine of Russia honoured him with the present of a gold medal. While his reputation was yet flourishing, and his powers unimpaired, a seizure of apoplexy carried him off, March 2, 1788, in the 56th year of his age.—His works have been translated into English.





## JOHN KNOX.

THIS intrepid reformer of the Scottish church was born at Gifford, near Haddington, in Scotland, in 1505, and about 1524 was placed at the university of St. Andrews, under the tuition of Mr. John Mair; and applied with so much diligence to the academical studies then in vogue, that whilst very young he obtained the degree of M. A. Taking priests' orders also at a very early age, after a careful perusal of the Fathers of the Church, especially Jerom and Austin, by the writings of the former he was led to the Scriptures, as the only pure fountain of divine truth; and in the works of the latter he found religious sentiments very opposite to those inculcated by the Romish church; but he did not profess himself a Protestant before the death of James V. in 1542.

Knox having become tutor to the sons of the lairds of Ormiston and Langniddrie, his ordinary residence was at this place; being particularly careful to instil into their minds the principles of the Protestant faith, this reached the ears of Cardinal Beaton, archbishop of St. Andrews, who harrassed him with such severity, that he was frequently obliged to abscond; but after the Cardinal was assassinated, in 1546, Knox took shelter in the castle of St. Andrews, then in possession of the Leslies, firm friends to the reformed faith. Here, resuming his tuition, he prepared a catechism for his pupils, which he obliged them to repeat in the parish church, and also read to them the Gospel of St. John, in a lecture, attended by several gentlemen of the place.

After Mr. Knox had absolutely engaged in the ministry, the resentment of the Popish clergy burst upon him from all quarters; but to all their accusations, Knox replied with so much acuteness, that he avoided incurring ecclesiastical censure. He next undertook to administer the sacrament publicly, till, the castle of St. Andrews being surrendered to the French, Mr. Knox was carried with the garrison to France, where he remained from July 1547 till the summer of 1549, when the death of Henry VIII. having taken place, he was employed as preacher at Berwick for two years, and next at Newcastle. In December 1551, he was appointed one of the six chaplains to Edward VI. and had sufficient influence to procure an important change in the communion office, completely excluding the notion of the corporal presence of Christ in the sacrament. In 1552, he again felt the hostility of the Catholics of the north. In 1553, he was offered the vacant living of All-Hallows, in the city of London, but refused it. Soon after the death of Edward VI. Mr. Knox married Miss Bowes. In 1554, to avoid persecution, he retired to France, and from thence proceeded to Switzerland, but soon after set out for Geneva. Returning to Scotland in 1555, he was protected by John Erskine, laird of Dun, and Sir James Sandilands, occasionally preaching at Edinburgh, and traversing several parts of Scotland for that purpose. In 1556, Knox again reached Geneva, being invited to take charge of an English congregation, and here he spent two years the most quiet of any in his life. In 1560, Knox lost his wife.

Knox himself died at Edinburgh, in 1572, in the sixty-seventh year of his age. He was of small stature, and a feeble habit of body: his beard, according to the custom of the times, reached his middle. He was interred in the kirk-yard of St. Giles: his corpse was attended by several of the nobility, particularly by the Earl of Morton, who, as soon as he was laid in the grave, exclaimed, "There lies a man who never in his life feared the face of a man, who hath often been threatened with dag and dagger, but yet hath ended his days in peace and honour." He left behind him a widow and five children, two sons and three daughters.





## PROFESSOR PLAYFAIR.

MR. JOHN PLAYFAIR, one of the most eminent mathematicians and philosophers of his time, was the eldest son of the Rev. James Playfair, a clergyman of the church of Scotland. He was born in 1749, at the manse or parsonage-house of Benvie, a few miles west of Dundee, and was educated by his father, an excellent Latin scholar, till his fourteenth year, when he was sent to the university of St. Andrew's. His general turn for study inclining him to the mathematics, at the age of eighteen he became the friend and companion of his master, Dr. Wilkie, the author of the *Epigoniad*. Soon after this, young Playfair obtained a bursary, and was highly noticed by the Earl of Kinnoul, the chancellor of the university. The earl having an excellent library, a young man could not be better employed during the vacation, than on a visit to the elegant and hospitable mansion.

When Mr. Playfair had finished his studies at St. Andrew's, he obtained a licence to preach, and then occasionally assisted his father, who was in an infirm state of health. At Edinburgh he became a member of the Speculative Society, and obtained the notice of the learned and elegant author of "*the History of Charles V.*" Mr. Playfair's father dying in 1772, by the exertion of very great friends, especially the principal Robertson, Mr. Playfair obtained the presentation to his living in opposition to the influence in favour of his majesty's alternate right of presentation to it, and he was thus enabled to maintain the helpless family his father had left.

As the contention for the living lasted nearly a whole year, John Playfair in the mean time set seriously to the education of his younger brothers, whom he instructed, particularly in the mathematics, with great care and attention. His mother and two sisters resided with him at the parsonage, till the year 1782, when Mr. Ferguson, of Raith, offering to take the charge of the sons, this gave Mr. Playfair an opportunity of residing at Edinburgh, where he became successor to Mr. Dugald Stewart, in the mathematical class. The first work published by Professor Playfair was "*the Elements of Geometry,*" in 1796, which was followed by an edition of *Euclid*: he was also a constant contributor to the *Transactions of the Edinburgh Royal Society*. When Mr. Playfair came to London for the first time, in the year 1782, he was introduced to the ingenious Mr. Whitehurst, author of the well known book on "*the Theory of the Earth,*" a copy of which he received as a present from the writer. In 1812, the Professor published "*Outlines of Natural Philosophy,*" principally intended for the benefit of students. In 1794, one of his brothers died, leaving a young family, when the Professor at once took them under his protection.

Three years ago, when approaching his seventieth year, he went to visit the Alps and Italy; and, returning by way of Paris, was well received by the men of letters, and as highly entertained by viewing those collections of the works of nature and art, in which that capital surpasses all others in the world.

During the summer of 1819, his health had considerably declined, he having been for many years subject to that most painful of all diseases, the strangury. On the evening of the 19th of July, he caused his sisters and nephews to be called together, and said every thing that was necessary relative to the state of his affairs. About two in the morning of the 29th, his bodily pain ceased; and about seven he expired almost insensibly and unobserved, though for the last twelve hours his afflicted relatives had scarcely ever quitted the room.





## ARMSTRONG.

JOHN ARMSTRONG, poet and physician, was born about 1709, at Castleton, in Roxburghshire, Scotland, where his father was minister. He was designed for the medical profession, and studied for that purpose in the university of Edinburgh, where he took his degree in 1732. After he had settled in London, he appeared in the double capacity of author and physician, and his first publication, in 1735, was a humorous attack upon empirics, in the manner of Lucian, entitled "An Essay for abridging the Study of Physic, &c."

In 1737, appeared his "Synopsis of the History and Cure of the Venereal Disease;" and, soon after it, "The Economy of Love." This is an elegant and vigorous performance, but so warm in some parts of it, as to have incurred the general censure of licentiousness; and in this, it is said, he caught the spirit of Ovid with all his libertinism. Its luxuriance, however, was considerably pruned by the author, in an edition printed in 1768. In 1744, his capital work, the didactic poem on "The Art of preserving Health," appeared, and raised his literary reputation to a height which his after performances scarcely sustained. In 1746, he was appointed one of the physicians to the military hospital, behind Buckingham House. A poem "On Benevolence," in 1751, and another, entitled "Taste, an Epistle to a young Critic," in 1753, showed that he continued to cultivate the muses, though with no extraordinary success. A volume of prose, being Sketches, or Essays on various Subjects," under the name of Lancelot Temple, Esq. in 1758, was better received by the public, though the celebrated Mr. Wilkes, then his intimate acquaintance, was supposed to have contributed to this volume. Dr. Armstrong being appointed physician to the army in Germany, in 1760, wrote, in that country, "Day," a poem, and "An Epistle to John Wilkes, Esq." A reflection upon Churchill drew upon him a severe retaliation from that irritable bard.

At the peace of 1763, Dr. Armstrong returned to London, and resumed the practice of physic; but his habits and manners opposed an insurmountable bar to his success. His mind was too lofty to stoop to intrigue; his manner was stiff and reserved, and his disposition rather indolent. In 1771, he visited France and Italy, accompanied by the celebrated painter, Fuseli, who warmly attests the beneficence of his character. On this tour he took a last farewell, in Italy, of his friend Smollet; and he published a short account of this ramble under the title of Lancelot Temple. His last publication, a pamphlet, in 1773, entitled "Medical Essays," accounts in a splenetic manner for the limited practice he attained, and complains of his literary critics.

He died in September 1779, leaving considerable savings from a very moderate income. Armstrong contributed to Thomson's "Castle of Indolence" the fine stanzas descriptive of the diseases to which the votaries of indolence generally become martyrs. His reputation as a poet is almost solely founded on his "Art of preserving Health," which may well rank among the first didactic poems in the English language. This work, adopted into the body of English classics, has often been printed both separately and in collections. It is distinguished by its simplicity—by a free use of words which owe their strength to their plainness—by the rejection of ambitious ornaments, and a near approach to common phraseology. His sentences are generally short and easy, and his sense clear and obvious. Dr. Armstrong was a man generally beloved by his friends for the goodness of his heart, as well as for his literary talents.





## ARTHUR MURPHY.

THIS gentleman was descended from a respectable family, and born at Cork, in Ireland, in 1727. Very early in life he was sent to the college of St. Omer, in France, where he remained till he was eighteen years of age, and was at the head of the Latin class when he quitted that seminary and returned to Ireland, where he was placed under an uncle, an eminent merchant, but who found it impossible to divert the mind of young Murphy from the stage, and the attractions of literature. On this account, not liking his profession, he came to London. His first production, the "Orphan of China," was very successful, and Mr. Murphy made several attempts to acquire reputation as an actor. Churchill, the poet, having levelled some of his keenest shafts against him, he answered his coarse and furious antagonist in a very humorous ode addressed to the Naiads of Fleet Ditch, and in a spirited poem, entitled "Expostulation." At length, Mr. Murphy finally withdrew from the stage, and applied to the study of the law, and was admitted of Lincoln's Inn.

As jurisprudence was ever a secondary consideration with him; in the course of his life, he wrote twenty two pieces for the stage, most of which were successful, several of them retaining an established rank among what are called "stock pieces." Previous to the publishing these plays, Mr. Murphy had produced a series of essays, under the title of "The Gray's Inn Journal," which, for so young an author, displayed great knowledge of men and manners; and when, according to his own acknowledgement, he had the impudence to write a periodical paper during the time that Johnson was publishing his "Rambler." At one period of his life, Mr. Murphy came forward as a political writer. "The Test" and "The Auditor," were the issue of his pen, in which his object was to support the measures of government at the time. He published a Latin version of "The Temple of Fame," and likewise of Gray's celebrated elegy. His English translation of Tacitus was much admired.

Mr. Murphy was the intimate friend of Foote and Garrick; and he was wont to relate a number of striking and entertaining anecdotes of the contemporary wits of those days; and he had several literary controversies with the celebrated George A. Stevens. Mr. Jesse Foote, having attended Mr. Murphy in his professional character many years, was appointed his executor, and entrusted with all his manuscripts. Mr. Foote has given this character of his friend, and of his literary attainments. "He lived in the closest friendship with the most polished authors and greatest lawyers of his time: his knowledge of the classics was profound; his translations of the Roman historians greatly enlarged his fame; his dramatic productions were inferior to none of the time in which he flourished." The pen of the poet was particularly adorned by the refined taste of the critic. He was the author of the "Orphan of China;" the "Grecian Daughter;" "All in the Wrong;" "The Way to Keep Him;" "Know your Own Mind;" "Three Weeks after Marriage;" "The Apprentice;" "The Citizen;" and many other esteemed productions.

Mr. Murphy enjoyed a pension of 200*l.* a year from government during the last three years of his life; besides which, he acted as one of the commissioners of bankrupts at Guildhall. His mother living to a very advanced age, Mr. Murphy was a truly dutiful and affectionate son; in fine, his manners were full of urbanity, and his death was much regretted; this occurred at Brompton in 1805. His last literary performance was the "Life of Garrick," by no means equal to his former productions.





## CAXTON.

THIS first introducer of the art of printing into England was born in the Weald of Kent, about the year 1410. After a common domestic education he was apprenticed to Mr. Robert Large, an eminent mercer in London, who, in 1439, was lord mayor of the city. After the death of his master, he went abroad as agent or factor for the Mercers' Company in the Low Countries, in which he spent about twenty-three years. There he acquired a knowledge of the continental languages, and such reputation for commercial experience, that he was joined with Richard Whitehill, Esq. in a commission granted by Edward IV. in 1464, for confirming the treaty of commerce between that king and Philip Duke of Burgundy.

Caxton's residence abroad made him acquainted with the new art of printing, then practised in Holland and Flanders. At the instigation of the Duchess of Burgundy, Lady Margaret of York, he translated from the French a work, entitled "The Recuyell of the History of Troye," &c. and got it printed at Cologne, himself having at a great charge and expense practised, and learned to ordain the said book in print. Its date is 1471. After this, he proceeded to print other works abroad, till, having provided himself with all necessaries for carrying on the art, he settled in England, and had a work room in Westminster-abbey, where, in 1474, he published the first book ever printed in this country, which was a translation from the French, of a work "On the Game and Play of the Chesse." His next performance was the *Dictes and Sayinges of the Philosophers*, translated out of French by Antone Erle Ryvvyres, Lord Seerles, emprinted by Wylliam Caxton, at Westmestre, 1477.

Caxton, being employed, as Mr. Dibdin remarks, to print this work of Antony Wedville, Earl Rivers, thus oddly concludes it in his own words.—

"Go thou little Quayer and recommend me,  
Unto the good grace of my precious Lord  
Th Erle Ryveris: for I have emprinted thee  
At his commandment following every worde,  
His cople, as his Secretarie can recorde;  
At Westmestre of Feverer the XX day  
And of King Edward the XVII Yere vraye.

Emprinted by Caxton  
In Feverer the colde season."

A story, indeed, is related by Richard Atkins, Esq. in his "Original and Growth of Printing," that in the reign of Henry VI. one Corsellis, a Dutchman, was bribed to come over to England with his art, and that through the instrumentality of a Mr. Turnour, assisted by our Caxton, a book was printed at Oxford with the date 1468. This book has been adduced in proof of the fact. But the authenticity of this account is disputed by some of the best judges; and, were it well founded, it refers only to the printing of one book, and that with *wooden blocks*, not with the improved invention of *fusile types*, which Caxton used. Caxton diligently practised his art for the space of twenty years, in which he produced between fifty and sixty specimens of his labour, a great part of them translations from the French, and, upon the whole, well adapted to infuse a taste for literature, and to promote good morals.

He died in 1491, and was buried at St. Margaret's, Westminster. Though his claims as a scholar are small, and no improvement of the typographical art is ascribed to him, yet he deserves the gratitude of his country for his share in naturalizing one of the most admirable of all inventions, and from which so much peculiar honour and benefit has accrued to this island.





## SIR GODFREY KNELLER.

THIS eminent portrait-painter was born in 1648, at Lubeck; his father, who was an architect, first designing him for a military life, sent him to Leyden to study fortification; but, his inclination leading him to painting, he was allowed to pursue it, and he took lessons at Amsterdam from Bol and Rembrandt. In 1672, he visited Italy, where he studied Titian and Annibal Caracci. At Venice, where he resided some time, he was employed and noticed by some of the first families, who admired his historic pieces; but this branch of the profession he soon abandoned for one more lucrative. Those who approve of his choice will also acquiesce in Mr. Walpole's sentiment, "that the treasures left to posterity, by one who transmits the likeness of all the eminent persons of his age, is greater than if he had multiplied Madonnas, and decorated palaces with imaginary triumphs and strained allegories." In 1674, Kneller, with his brother, who was also a painter, came to England; and, having obtained an introduction to the Duke of Monmouth, who sat to him, the picture gave so much satisfaction, that Charles II. was prevailed upon to let the new painter take his portrait, at the same time he was sitting to Sir Peter Lely. The superior expedition with which he worked, together with the strong likeness he gave, were highly pleasing to the king.

Fixing his residence in England, after Lely's death, he was appointed king's painter. Charles, who sent Kneller to France to take the portrait of Louis XIV. died before his return; James II. however, was equally favourable to our artist. By William III. he was sent to paint the plenipotentiaries at the peace of Ryswick, and, on his return, he received the honour of knighthood. He also took the portrait of the Czar Peter, when this monarch was in England. Queen Anne continued Sir Godfrey in his post, and employed him to paint the Arch-duke Charles, afterwards emperor. George I. created him a baronet, and was the last of ten sovereigns who sat to him. He continued to practise his art to an advanced age, having reached his 75th year, when his death occurred in October 1723. He was interred in Westminster Abbey, under a splendid monument executed by Rysbrach.

Kneller's principal works are, his Hampton Court pieces, his Admirals, his Kit Cat club, and many illustrious portraits. He is said, however, to have given the preference to his converted Chinese, at Windsor. About seventy-five of his heads have been engraved. Though wealth was Kneller's great object, he was no hoarder; he lived magnificently, and indulged a voluptuous taste. He had a country-house at Whitton, near Hampton Court, and acted in the commission of the peace, but with more attention to the dictates of humanity, than to the letter of the law. He possessed a fund of humour and quickness of repartee, but his conversation was thought licentious upon religious topics. No painter received more compliments from the sister art than himself; Dryden, Pope, Addison, Prior, Tickell, and Steele, all wrote in his praise. The author of "An Essay on Painting," speaking of William the Third's neglect in not contributing to the arts, says,

"Yet to thy palace Kneller's skill supplied  
Its richest ornament, in Beauty's pride."

and farther observes, that his employing Kneller to paint the Beauties at Hampton Court, his rewarding him with a knighthood, and the additional present of a gold medal and chain worth 300*l.*, may justify those lines of Pope, which describe the hero William as an encourager of painting. Dryden's Epistle to him is enchanting. In fact, no painter was ever more flattered by the poets of his day, who gave him credit for talents he never possessed.





*Hall sculp.*

## WARREN HASTINGS.

THIS distinguished servant of the Hon. East India Company, and late governor-general of Bengal, was educated at Westminster school; and, at the age of sixteen, appointed a writer in the Company's service. In 1749, he embarked for Bengal, where he resided upwards of fourteen years, passing through all the gradations of rank connected with his situation, till he attained one of the highest appointments, and became a member of the Council at Calcutta. In 1764, he returned to England in his Majesty's ship the *Medway*, but only remained unemployed during a few years. The Court of Directors afterwards wishing for a person of abilities equal to the government of Madras, Mr. Hastings was appointed second in council at that settlement; but he had not been long at Madras, before he received orders from England to proceed immediately to Bengal, to take upon him the government; this was in the spring of 1772. Having completely discharged the debt under which his new government laboured, Mr. Hastings, in 1774, when Parliament changed the whole system of the East India Company's management at home and abroad, was appointed the first governor general; which rank was conferred upon him three several times afterwards, between that year and his final departure from Bengal in 1785.

The important transactions with which he was connected in the East, could not be comprised in a memorial of this kind. Suffice it to add, that, through his conduct in a war with France, with Hyder Aly, and the Mahrattas, he was emphatically called by the minister of the day, "The Saviour of India." But, notwithstanding this, very soon after his arrival in his native country, he was met with accusations in number and magnitude beyond all precedent, was formally impeached in 1786, and was kept on a trial seven years. During this period, every act of his government was "sifted and holted to the bran," till he was honourably acquitted. Some years after, to shew the sense the Commons entertained of his public character, having been examined upon the renewal of the Company's charter, when he was about to retire, all the members spontaneously rose; an act of respect, that appeared like some atonement for the different treatment he had previously received.

Mr. Hastings, whose proper title was the Right Honourable Warren Hastings, late Governor-General of Bengal, Doctor of Civil Law, and one of his Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, died at his seat, Daylesford House, Worcestershire, on the 22d of August 1818, in the 86th year of his age. The propriety of his public character might have remained unquestionable, did not other authorities, contrary to his own *ipse dixit*, hold him up "as the scourge of the East for thirteen years; whilst the ruinous effects of barbarity in India are strongly and distinctly stated in his letters, dispatches, and minutes of council." Even his defence at the bar of the House of Commons has been deemed arrogant; for, though his assertions were bold and his arguments feeble, he had the presumption to call its authority in question. The speaker, nevertheless, in giving the thanks of the house to the management of the impeachment, said; "their exertions had conferred honour not on themselves only, but on the House under whose authority they had acted." Thus terminated the long depending cause of Mr. Hastings in the year 1795, since which he lived in close retirement.

In private life, Mr. Hastings, it is said, was the most tender and affectionate husband, the kindest master, and the sincerest friend; and, in his social hours, the most pleasing companion, being instructive, affable, cheerful, and complacent.





*Holl sculp.*

## SENECA.

THIS celebrated moralist was born at Cordova, during the period when Spain was a Roman Colony. He was of the family of Annaeus, of the Order of Knights. His father came to Rome in the time of Augustus and was soon followed by his wife and children, Seneca being then an infant. In the fifth year of Tiberius, when the Jews were expelled that city, Seneca was about twenty : his father had trained him up to rhetoric, but his genius led him rather to philosophy, and he applied himself to the study of morality and virtue. He was a great hearer of the celebrated men of those times, Attalus, Sotion, Papirius, and Fabianus, and was also an admirer of Demetrius the Cynic, with whom he often travelled ; but the father of Seneca, not pleased with his son's study of philosophy, forced him upon the law, and for some time he practised pleading : he was afterwards quæstor, then proctor, and some say he was chosen consul, but this is doubtful.

Seneca, though he had been tutor to Nero, at length, finding he had enemies at court, went resolutely to this tyrant, and offered to refund all he was possessed of, which Nero refused ; however, from that time, Seneca, who was very rich, shunned company, and went little abroad, pretending to be kept at home by indisposition or study. While Nero followed the counsel of Seneca, who with Burrhus was his favourite, things, it is said, went on well. These persons were both excellent in their different walks : Burrhus, for enforcing the strictness of military discipline ; and Seneca, for his precepts and good advice. Both, says Tacitus, endeavoured, by allowing Nero lawful pleasures in that slippery age, to inspire him with a love of virtue.

Seneca had two wives : the name of the first is not mentioned, though by her he had his son Marcus ; of Paulina, his second, he often speaks with great affection. In the first year of Claudius, he was banished into Corsica, when Julia, the daughter of Germanicus, was accused by Messalina of adultery, and also exiled. Seneca was charged with being one of the adulterers ; however, in the course of eight years he was recalled and restored to favour. His gardens, villas, lands, possessions, and incredible sums of money, drew upon him the envy of many ; the greatest part of these he received from the bounty of Nero. Dido says, that in Britany alone he had 250,000*l.* sterling out at interest. Nero, it is said, endeavoured to poison Seneca privately ; but, this failing, he ordered the philosopher to be seized within four miles of Campania, and afterwards to be bled to death. His wife Paulina insisted upon dying with him, and had her veins opened ; but Nero, having no particular resentment against her, gave orders to prevent her death : she survived her husband some years, in a languishing state. Seneca not bleeding freely, his spirits being wasted by age and a thin diet, was forced to cut the veins of his thighs and other parts to hasten his dispatch : he also asked for and received a dose of poison ; though this did not avail, till, going into a hot bath, the vapour soon dispatched him. His eloquence continued to the last, as appears by the excellent things he delivered. His body, according to his desire, was burnt without any funeral solemnity.

Seneca's morals have been repeatedly printed ; and, "next to the gospel itself," says Sir Roger L'Estrange, "I look upon it as the most sovereign remedy against the miseries of human nature ; and I have ever found it so in all the injuries and distresses of an unfortunate life." Among those pieces written by Seneca that are lost, St. Jerome refers to a discourse concerning matrimony. Lactantius takes notice of his history and his books of moralities, as St. Augustin does of a book written by this philosopher upon superstition. He also wrote several poems during his banishment.





## BLUCHER.

THIS consummate warrior, GEBHARDT LEBRECHT VON BLUCHER, descended from a noble family, and was born at Rostock in the Duchy of Mecklenburgh Schwerin, on the 16th of December 1742. His father was a captain of dragoons; but, during the seven years' war, fearful of his son's safety, he sent him to the island of Rugen; but, as four of his brothers were serving in the Prussian, Russian, and Danish, armies, he felt himself so strongly attached to the appearance of the Swedish hussars, then quartered in the island, that no entreaties could prevent him from entering into the regiment of Morner. The first enemy he drew his sword against was the Black or Death's Head hussars, the very same Prussian regiment he was afterwards destined to command. Being soon exchanged after he had been made prisoner by the Prussians, he had a fair opportunity of entering their service, and immediately was made a captain through the assistance of his patron, Colonel Belling. In consequence of some difference between his superiors, he resigned; and, marrying a young lady with a small fortune, became a farmer. Being subsequently restored to the Prussian army, his career of glory commenced: he was appointed colonel of the Black hussars, and soon after promoted to the rank of major-general. His exploits as a partizan in 1793 and 1794, upon the Rhine, so far distinguished him, that he was reckoned the first partizan chief of the age, and was promoted to the rank of major-general in the Prussian army.

In 1801, he was made a lieutenant-general, and, previously to the campaign of 1806, appointed governor of Munster. He was soon called to participate in the battle of Jena; but here his courage and skill were of no avail against Napoleon's superior tactics. Blücher felt himself foiled, and he with difficulty retreated to Luheck, where he capitulated to the French under Bernadotte, but was exchanged for General Victor. At the peace of Tilsit, he was appointed to the military government of Pomerania. Soon after Bonaparte's disastrous return from Russia in 1812, Blücher was again employed, and in March 1813, he marched out of Silesia with an army of 25,000 men well disciplined and equipped, when the Russian general Winzingerode, with 13,000 Russians, was placed under him. The Elbe being passed by the allies, the battles of Lutzen, Bautzen, Dresden, the Katzbach, and Leipsic, followed almost in succession, in all of which our hero being successful, the passage of the Rhine, under Marshal Blücher, took place on the first of January 1814. The subsequent proceedings of the allies, till they reached Paris, form a succession of victories too numerous to detail here. Paris was first delivered up to the confederates on the 31st of March 1814, when, leaving his sovereign with the Emperor of Russia in the French capital, Marshal Blücher returned to Magdeburg, and peace was signed between Austria, Russia, Great Britain, and Prussia, on the 30th of May.

The return of Bonaparte from the isle of Elba again calling the allies into the field, in 1815, hostilities commenced between the Prussians and the French, on the 25th of April, near Givet, after which the exploits of the gallant Blücher, in conjunction with the great Wellington, are well known, and the welcome meeting of the two heroes of Waterloo will never be forgotten. Their majesties, the Emperor of Russia and the King of Prussia, entered Paris the second time on the 10th of July. A few days previously to his landing on Albion's sea-girt shore, he was raised to the dignity of Prince Blücher of Wahlstatt. After having been indisposed a considerable time, Blücher paid the debt of nature at his estate near Breslaw, September 10, 1819; high in the favour of his country, who intend to perpetuate his memory by a suitable monument.





## SIR KENELM DIGBY.

THIS conspicuous royalist was son and heir of Sir Everard Digby, of Drystoke, in Rutlandshire, and was born at Gothurst, in Buckinghamshire, in July 1603. About the year 1618, he was sent to Gloucester Hall, in the University of Oxford, and continued here as a gentleman commoner more than two years, after which he travelled in foreign countries for some time. In 1623, he received the honour of knighthood, at Hinchbrook, from King James, who had also restored him to the estate forfeited by his father. In 1628, he was admiral of a fleet to the Levant, and obtained great honour by his brave conduct at Algiers, in rescuing many slaves, and by his attacking the Venetian fleet in the bay of Scanderoon. In 1638, he commenced a correspondence with George Digby, afterwards Earl of Bristol, relative to the authority of the antient fathers, and other controverted points between the protestants and catholics, Sir Kenelm having embraced the latter religion about two years before.

In 1639, by the queen's wish, he was engaged with Mr. Walter Montagu, afterwards Abbot of Pontoise, in exciting the papists to contribute liberally to the king, upon which the forces then raised were called "The Popish Army." In consequence of this conduct, Sir Kenelm was brought upon his knees before the House of Commons in 1640. In the beginning of the civil wars, he exerted himself vigorously in the royal cause, and was afterwards, by the parliament's order, imprisoned in Winchester House, Southwark. Having leave to depart in 1643, he went to France the year following, and at Paris had frequent conversations with Descartes, especially upon the soul. Being made Chancellor to the Queen of England when at Paris, he was employed in the following year upon an embassy to Pope Innocent X. to solicit his assistance for her husband, especially as she had learned that the Pontiff had sent his Nuncio to correspond with the Irish rebels. In the succeeding year, he went again to Rome to put the last hand to the treaty with the Pope in favour of the Catholics. However, notwithstanding the zeal he had shewn for his own religion, and for the royal cause, when Oliver Cromwell took the title of Protector, Sir Kenelm was gained over, and the sequestration upon his estate was taken off.

In 1655-6, he wrote to Secretary Thurlow at Paris, stating that his obligations to the Protector were so great, that it would be a crime in him to give any cause for the least suspicion, or to do any thing that might require any excuse or apology. Notwithstanding these obligations to Cromwell, he resided chiefly in France till the restoration, when he returned to England, still enjoying his office of Chancellor to the Queen; and in the charter granted by Charles II. for founding the Royal Society of London, Sir Kenelm was nominated one of the council of twenty one.

He had resolved to go to France to be treated for the stone; but, his illness increasing, he was conveyed back to London, and died at his house in Covent-Garden, on the 11th of June 1665. He was interred in a vault beneath the choir of Christ Church, near Newgate-street. By his lady Venetia, he had three sons, the eldest was killed at St. Neots, in Huntingdonshire, during the civil wars.

He was a man of great abilities, and very extensive knowledge for his time; but, being extremely devoted to the study of chemistry, is supposed to have been too credulous. Besides his Treatise on the Nature of Man's Soul, he published Observations on Religio Medici, a Treatise on the Nature of Bodies, and a Discourse on the Nature of Plants, read before the Royal Society.





## WILLIAM WAYNFLEET.

THIS eminent bishop of Winchester and lord high chancellor of England in the reign of Henry VI. was descended from a good family in Lincolnshire, being the son of Richard Patten, of Waynfleet, in that county. He received the elements of his education near home, but was thence sent to Winchester, and afterwards to the university of Oxford, where he applied himself with great diligence to the study of polite literature, philosophy, and divinity, and took the degree of bachelor. His first preferment was that of school-master of Winchester, where, remaining twelve years, he was made provost of Eton College by Henry VI. in 1443; by whom he was likewise advanced to the see of Winchester, upon the death of Cardinal Henry Beaufort, in April 1447. In this elevated station, his abilities, integrity, and prudence, gave him considerable weight in his majesty's councils, particularly in 1450, during the formidable insurrection of Jack Cade in Kent. Being consulted what was to be done in such an important crisis, he advised the issuing out of a proclamation of pardon to every person concerned in the rebellion, excepting Cade himself. This produced the desired effect, the rebels immediately dispersed and abandoned their leader, who was punished with death.

The bishop was also of great service to the king some time after; when, Richard Duke of York having taken up arms, he was sent to him with the Bishop of Ely, who learned that his ardent wishes for the removal of the king's evil counsellors, particularly the Duke of Somerset, had been the sole cause of this apparent hostility. The Duke of Somerset being soon after committed to prison, the Duke of York was graciously received by the king, when, to confirm his loyalty, in the presence of the Bishop of Winchester and others of the privy council, he took a solemn oath in St. Paul's Cathedral, that he would for the future continue in inviolable fidelity to his Majesty. Thus, an affair, which threatened to involve the nation in all the calamities of a civil war, was at once compromised by the prudence and address of the Bishop of Winchester; who, in October 1453, had the honour of baptizing the young Prince of Wales, by the name of Edward.

In October 1456, he was appointed Lord High Chancellor of England, in the room of Thomas Bouchier, Archbishop of Canterbury; and in the following year, he sat in judgement with him and other prelates upon Dr. Reginald Peacock, Bishop of Chichester, who had given great offence, by asserting "that human reason ought not to be preferred to the holy scriptures; that the bishops who purchased their preferments came unwarrantably into their sees; that no person is bound to believe the determinations of the Romish church; and that the universal church might err in points of faith." His writings were publicly burnt, the author obliged to recant, and afterwards confined to his own house. In 1460, the Bishop of Winchester resigned his office of lord chancellor a few days before the fatal battle of Northampton. Notwithstanding his former attachment to Henry VI. upon Edward the fourth's establishment on the throne, he was treated by the king with great lenity.

He held the see of Winchester thirty-eight years, and died on the 11th of August 1486, after witnessing the reconciliation of the houses of York and Lancaster in the person of Henry VII., and was buried in his own cathedral. He founded Magdalen College, Oxford, and was unbounded in his compassion to the poor, his love of learning, and of an amiable and obliging temper. Magdalen College, for its building and revenues, can be paralleled with few in Europe; the endowment taking in forty fellows, thirty demys, four chaplains, eight clerks, and sixteen choristers.





*Holl. sculp.*

## CORNEILLE.

THIS sublime genius, justly placed at the head of the French dramatic writers, was born at Rouen in 1606, and brought up to the bar. He for some time acted as an advocate without discovering any talent for poetry; but the first indications of his dormant genius appeared in a comedy, entitled *Melite*, and had prodigious success. Corneille, pursuing his career, wrote several other comic pieces, and at length blazed out in the *Cid*, represented in 1636. Cardinal Richelieu, jealous of such a rising genius, endeavoured to damp the public admiration of him by criticism, in which he was joined by the French Academy; however, upon the theatre the *Cid* continued to triumph over the minister and his critics. This piece was followed by, *The Horaces*, by *Cinna*, and by *Polieucte*, all considered as master-pieces of the French theatre, and beyond any doubt superior to all the works of former French dramatists. His character is, elevation of sentiment, force and dignity of expression, and a striking display of the great passions that agitate the mind. In the soft and tender, he is less happy, as if he surveyed the operations of the soul more as an orator than a poet. He peculiarly excels in his Roman personages, but even his comedies were superior to most of those of his predecessors.

In 1647, Corneille was elected a member of the French Academy, and lived to enjoy the pleasure of hearing himself acknowledged as "the great Corneille," by the writers of the age of Louis le Grand; he was, nevertheless, neglected in his advanced age by the court, and, when poor, sickly, and dying, obtained a gratuity of 200 louis from the King, merely through the interference of Boileau, who generously offered to resign his own pension, provided Corneille's should be restored. He died in 1684, leaving three sons; one entered into the army, and the other became an abbot.

Corneille was of a good size, with a simple and ordinary presence, always negligent and careless of his appearance. His countenance was agreeable: he had a large nose, handsome mouth, eyes full of fire, and his features in general strongly marked. His pronunciation was rather indistinct; and, though he was acquainted with polite literature, history, and politics, he chiefly regarded them as connected with the drama. For other pursuits, he had neither curiosity nor esteem. He spoke little even upon the topics he was best acquainted with, and wanted address in setting off what he said; to discover the great Corneille, it was necessary to read him. He was inclined to love, but not to libertinism: but, as he had an independent mind, his face at court was but seldom seen, and his merit of course was not suited to that circle. Being accustomed to praises, he was not indifferent to them; but, though sensible to fame, he was free from any disgusting vanity.

Of his dramatic works, the best edition was that of July, 10 vols. in twelves, till the capital one was published by Voltaire in 1764, in 12 vols. octavo, for the benefit of a grand-niece of Corneille, whom the poet educated and placed advantageously in the world. To this edition, Voltaire added a good commentary, &c.—The *Cid*, after all, says Voltaire, was a beautiful imitation of Guillian de Castro, and, in many places, a translation: *Cinna*, which followed next, was a master-piece. An antient domestic of the house of Condé told Voltaire, that the great Condé, at the age of twenty, being present at the first representation of this tragedy, shed tears upon hearing the passage where Augustus begins with these words,

"Je suis maitre de moi, comme de l'univers, &c."





## BOSSUET.

THIS celebrated pulpit orator, who once ranked among the ablest champions of the Roman catholic faith, and the brightest ornaments of the French clergy, was born in 1627, at Dijon, and was placed, very young, under the care of the Jesuits. Even when a boy, his application to learning made him decline entering into the active sports of his companions, notwithstanding the ridicule this singularity brought upon him. Having chosen the clerical profession, whatever had any connection with it he made the object of his attention. The fathers, the schoolmen, and even the mystical writers, came within his extensive reading : Augustin, among the former, and Homer, among the poets, were his favourites. Of all the branches of knowledge, the only one he neglected was the mathematics. He often visited the Abbey of La Trappe ; and, at the early age of sixteen, displayed his talents for public speaking, by a discourse on a given subject, before a numerous and select company. His memory was as extraordinary as his abilities. His style of preaching was lofty, free, animated, and energetic. Of his sermons, he seldom wrote more down than the heads, which, after deep meditation in the closet, were enlarged upon in the pulpit. His printed sermons are rather bold and masterly sketches, than finished compositions ; but his funeral orations are said to be superior to every thing of the kind, in France.

In 1652, he became doctor of the Sorbonne, and spent some years at Metz, of which church he was a canon : here he wrote his first polemic piece, a refutation of the catechism of a Hugonot minister of that town, with whom he lived on terms of amity. On his return from the capital, he was appointed to preach before the king, and the see of Condom was bestowed upon him, without any solicitation on his part ; but this, when he became the dauphin's preceptor, in 1670, he resigned. When the young prince's education was completed, Louis XIV. to reward Bossuet, raised him to the see of Meaux. After having written in the defence of the Christian religion, the catholic faith, and the Gallican church, he next undertook to refute the notions of the amiable Fénelon, concerning Quietism, or disinterested love towards God.

In his diocese, he employed his time in the instruction, comfort, and relief, of the unlettered and afflicted. Peasants and children were select objects, when he made his pastoral visits ; and it was whilst engaged in this truly Christian work, that he ended, in 1704, a life, which had been remarkably studious and uniformly dignified. To his honour, though zealous for the church of Rome, he was no friend to the persecution of the protestants ; though, in his personal behaviour, he sometimes betrayed haughtiness, a domineering disposition, and a high opinion of himself.

Bossuet's works are numerous : a collection of them, in 12 vols. 4to. was made in 1743, and the Benedictines of St. Maur have published twelve volumes of a new and improved edition. They chiefly consist of controversial treatises, explanations of scripture, moral and theological writings. The French academy, which gave him admission in 1671, boasts of him as one of the members from whom it derived the highest honour. Bossuet, it should be observed, was not above the influence of the tender passion. When very young, he had engaged to marry Mademoiselle Desvieux, a woman of uncommon merit ; but, after his talents for divinity, and that species of eloquence, in which he so particularly excelled, had developed themselves, the young lady joined in the wishes of his parents, in preferring the glory he must acquire, as a preacher, to the happiness of passing her life with him.





## LORD THURLOW.

EDWARD LORD THURLOW, born in 1735, was the son of the Rev. Thomas Thurlow, rector of Ashfield, Suffolk. After remaining some time at Cambridge, which place the vivacity of his conduct obliged him to leave, he came to London, to pursue the profession of the law. He was called to the bar in 1758, and rose into professional notice by his opposition to Sir Fletcher Norton, who had been in the habit not only of making the bar, but the hench, tremble. This first *nisi prius* lawyer was now, in a solemn argument, heat down and overpowered by the manly resolution, and intrepid spirit, of the young advocate. The able manner in which Mr. Thurlow afterwards pleaded the Douglas cause, obtained him the silk gown; and he was, in May 1770, appointed solicitor-general.

In May 1771, he succeeded Sir William de Grey, first Lord Walsingham, as attorney-general, and was chosen member for Tamworth. At first he made but little or no figure in the senate; but, in the commencement of the American disputes, his support of the minister, Lord North, soon not only gave him a lead amongst the lawyers of the house, but raised him to the first rank of parliamentary honours.

In June 1778, he was created a peer, by the style and title of Lord Thurlow, Baron of Ashfield, in Suffolk; and the next day was constituted Lord High Chancellor of Great Britain.

In 1783, on the coming in of the coalition ministry, he was removed from his office, and the seals were put into commission; however, on the final triumph of Mr. Pitt, he was reinstated in the chancellorship, but resigned the seals again in 1793, upon some quarrel with the premier. After that, his lordship retired to enjoy his dignities in private life, until the year 1806, when, on the 12th of September, he expired at Brighthelmstone, after an illness of two days, in the 71st year of his age; and, on the 25th of the same month, his remains were taken from his house, in Great George-street, Westminster, to the Temple church, and there interred with great solemnity. The pall bearers were the Lord Chancellor, the Duke of Newcastle, Lord Eldon, the Lord Chief Justice of the King's Bench, the Lord Chief Baron of the Exchequer, &c.

As a lawyer, it is agreed, a man of sounder knowledge, quicker penetration, more decisive or correct judgement, or of more independence of professional character, and firmness of opinion, never ascended the hench. He is said to have laid it down as a principle in early life, "that to act with confidence was to win regard; and to display courage was half the battle." He pursued this notion, whenever it would serve his purpose, to the end of his days. But to these qualities were certainly opposed, a roughness of manner, a demeanour harsh and uncivil, sometimes barely decent towards his brethren at the bar, and a considerable laxity in private life. As a politician, he was overhearing in the extreme, but firm to his party; and, in one instance, he evinced a regard for his sovereign, which it would be unjust not to distinguish by a higher name than loyalty or duty. As a patron to men of learning, he was one of the most munificent that ever sat upon the hench. In bestowing church preferment he was singularly honest and disinterested, and many anecdotes are related of him, which place his character in a very amiable point of view. As a general scholar, he possessed much more learning than the world gave him credit for; and his profound acquaintance with Greek is testified in a dedication to him, by his steadfast friend the late Bishop Horsley. As a man, he had his virtues and his failings.





## WILLIAM BECKFORD.

OF the early years and education of this opulent and intrepid patriot, history has furnished no details.—Being one of the greatest proprietors in the West Indies, he became a representative in parliament for the city of London in 1770, and was also twice elected into the important office of Lord Mayor, viz. in 1763 and 1770. In his former trust, he was one of those members who acquitted themselves with great integrity and independence during a part of the administration of Lord North. It was at this period that Alderman Beckford stood forward in his public capacity, and in his private life, as the firm and invincible champion of the liberties of his country. Upon every question in parliament, which involved the three constitutional estates of King, Lords, and Commons, Mr. Beckford was not only strenuous in their support, but endeavoured to conciliate the views of all parties to the same laudable end. In the close of a debate of this kind, he invited both houses of parliament to a public dinner on the 22d of March 1770, on which occasion the Mansion-house was decorated with a splendour that surpasses all description. The company went in procession through the city from the houses of parliament; and among the noble personages present, were seven dukes, two marquisses, twenty earls, fourteen lords, four viscounts; besides a great number of other noble and independent members of both houses.

During the second period, whilst Mr. Beckford filled the chair of the chief magistrate, it fell to his lot at three different times to approach the throne, to deliver a petition, remonstrance, and an address from the citizens and livery of London, praying for a redress of grievances and a dissolution of the then sitting parliament, and for the removal of evil-minded persons from the cabinet and councils of his Majesty. To the last petition delivered on the 23d of May 1770, his Majesty gave an answer highly repulsive; when Mr. Beckford, to the astonishment of the courtiers and every person present, rose up, and with great presence of mind, and fluency of language, delivered an extempore address to his majesty, concluding with these words:—"Permit me, sire, further to observe, that whoever has already dared, or shall hereafter endeavour, by false insinuations and suggestions, to alienate your majesty's affections from your loyal subjects in general, and from the city of London in particular, is an enemy to your majesty's person and family, a violator of the public peace, and a betrayer of our happy constitution, as it was established at the GLORIOUS and NECESSARY REVOLUTION."

Mr. Beckford did not survive this memorable interview a month, as he expired in London in June following, aged 63; and if any thing could add to the lustre of his character, it was the manner of his death; for, notwithstanding he was extremely indisposed at Fonthill, he was so attentive to discharge the important duties confided to him, that he travelled near an hundred miles in one day to attend the public business. This violent exertion brought on a fever, which terminated a life that will ever be held in veneration. That his memory might be recorded to posterity, the corporation of London erected his statue in their Guildhall, and recorded in the inscription, in letters of gold, the magnanimous speech which he addressed to the King, in vindication of the people's right to remonstrate to the throne.

Most public personages have some shade in their character, which the finger of envy or malice might occasionally mark; but, in whatever point of view the character of Beckford may be scrutinized, whether as citizen, senator, or magistrate, it may be affirmed that, though all the honours of the state were within his grasp, his independent spirit was never shaken, but he preserved his consistency of character to the moment of his death.





## INIGO JONES.

THIS English architect, commonly styled the British Vitruvius, was born about the year 1572, in the neighbourhood of St. Paul's, London; his father, Mr. Ignatius Jones, was a citizen and a clothworker. At a proper age, Inigo was apprenticed to a joiner, and distinguished himself very early by his extraordinary progress in the art of designing, which recommended him to the Earl of Pembroke, at whose expense he visited Italy and other parts of Europe. Such was his reputation, that during his absence abroad Christian IV. King of Denmark, sent for him from Venice, and appointed him his architect-general, but he returned to England when James I. married the sister of the Danish monarch; his situation as the royal architect he retained under this princess and under Prince Henry, and obtained the surveyorship-general of his Majesty's works. Prince Henry dying in 1612, Jones made a second visit to Italy, and continued there, till his reversion fell to him. His first work after his return was the decoration of the interior of the church of St. Catharine Cree. Upon the death of James I. he was continued in his former appointments. He had drawn the designs for the palace of Whitehall, and that part of it called the Banqueting House was now carried into execution.

In 1633, an order was issued requiring him to commence the reparation of St. Paul's, and the work was begun soon afterwards at the eastern end, Dr. Laud laying the first stone. Mr. Jones, having reduced the body of the church into order and uniformity from the steeple to the western end, added a magnificent portico, a piece of architecture not to be paralleled in modern times. Charles I. sustaining the whole expense, adorned this structure with statues of his royal father and himself. Whilst engaged in these noble works, he gave equal proofs of his talents with respect to the machinery employed in masques and in interludes. In these, the invention of the scenes, ornaments, and dresses, were the work of Mr. Jones; but the subject, the speeches, and songs, were consigned to the poets, Chapman, Davenant, Daniel, and Jonson. About 1614, a quarrel occurred between Mr. Jones and Ben Jonson, which seems only to have terminated with the poet's death. Mr. Jones, in the mean time, had acquired a handsome fortune, but it was much impaired by losses sustained in consequence of his loyalty after the unhappy breach between the king and parliament. Charles II. upon the restoration restored Inigo Jones to his post; but it was then an empty title, nor did he survive long enough to render it productive. Misfortunes and age put a period to his life at Somerset house, July 21, 1651, and he was buried in the church of St. Bennet's, Paul's Wharf.

Among the principal works of this great man, are the following: the Banqueting House, Whitehall—Barber's Hall, in Monkwell Street, London—The new buildings fronting the gardens at Somerset House—The first Church and Piazza of Covent Garden—Lincoln's-Inn-Fields: this fine square was originally laid out by his masterly hand, and it is said that the sides of it are the exact measure of the great pyramid of Egypt. It was intended to have been completed in an uniform style; but a sufficient number of people of taste were not then to be found to accomplish a work of that kind—The New Quadrangle of St. John's College, Oxford—The Queen's Chapel at St. James's—Shaftesbury House in Aldersgate Street—The garden front of Wilton House, with some other parts of that noble edifice—The Queen's House at Greenwich—The Grange in Hampshire, the seat of the Earl of Northington—Cashiobury, in Hertfordshire—Gunnersbury near Brentford—Coleshill, Berks—Cobham Hall in Kent, &c. &c. are the fruits of his skill and genius.





*Holl sculp.*

## DR. VINCENT.

**WILLIAM VINCENT**, the late learned and respected Dean of Westminster, was born in London, November 2, 1739.—His father was deputy of Lime-street ward. Dr. Vincent was first sent to school at Cavendish, in Suffolk; but was removed to Westminster so early as to begin at the lowest class of the school, of which he was to become so great an ornament. Passing through every gradation here, he was elected Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1757. In 1762, soon after being chosen a fellow, he returned to Westminster as usher. In 1764, he became M.A.; and, on the resignation of Dr. Lloyd, the veteran under master, in 1771, he was appointed to that office; in the same year, he was nominated one of the chaplains in ordinary to his Majesty.

During the period of his under mastership, he published nothing considerable. Within a few months after his appointment to this situation, he married Miss Hannah Wyatt, of Westminster; he, however, remained without clerical preferment till 1778, when he obtained the vicarage of Longdon in Worcestershire; this living he resigned in about six months, on being collated to the rectory of All-Hallows the Great and Less, in Thames-street, London. In 1776, he took the degree of Doctor in Divinity; and in 1788, on the resignation of Doctor Smith, he obtained the well-deserved advancement as head master of Westminster school. From this time, it may almost be said, he began to be an author; and, in 1789, he preached a sermon before the Sons of the Clergy, which, as usual, was published soon after. In 1792, another sermon against the principles arising from the contagion of the French Revolution, preached at St. Margaret's, Westminster, was mostly reprinted by the Association against Republicans and Levellers. In 1793, he published a small tract in quarto, which announced him to the learned world as a diligent investigator of historical facts. It related to the eighth book of Livy. Turning his attention to grammar, in 1794, appeared "The Origination of the Greek Verb, an Hypothesis." In 1797, this was followed by his celebrated commentary on Arrian's Voyage of Nearchus. His object was to render Arrian intelligible to every reader. This was followed by the Periplus, the second part of which was published in 1805, and dedicated to the king. Dr. Vincent's next labour was to vindicate the utility of public schools, and he was in consequence recommended to his Majesty as successor to his friend Bishop Horsey, in the deanery of Westminster. He afterwards accepted the rectory of St. John's, Westminster, which, holding two years, he exchanged for that of Islip, in Oxfordshire.

Dr. Vincent wrote several articles in the Classical Journal and in the British Critic; but in 1815, the powers of his stomach beginning to fail, this led to his dissolution, which took place at Westminster, in the December of that year, in the 77th year of his age. Dr. Vincent was above the common size, and had a very dignified and majestic appearance, advantages of no small importance to a public school; and his countenance was a faithful index to his benevolent mind. He was also charitable, generous, and placable; and what would be least suspected by those who had no personal knowledge of him, was the ease with which he could, on fit occasions and without the smallest impropriety, sink the man of learning and research in the cheerful friend and unassuming companion. Dr. Vincent wrote Latin inscriptions, which are put up in Westminster Abbey, for himself and his wife. A volume of Sermons on Faith, Doctrines, and Public Duties, with a preface by his son the Rev. William St. A. Vincent, appeared in 1817, with a Life of the Author by the Rev. Robert Nares, archdeacon of Stafford.





## LORD HOWE.

THIS gallant admiral was born in the year 1725, being the third son of Sir Emanuel Scrope, Lord Viscount Howe, of the kingdom of Ireland, and entered the naval service so early, that, before he was fifteen, he left Eton College to go to the South Seas, with Commodore Anson. Before he was twenty, he was appointed to the command of a sloop of war, in which he beat off two large French frigates; for this he was made a post-captain. After a variety of active services, he obtained the command of the *Dunkirk*, of 60 guns, with which he captured a French 64, off Newfoundland.

In 1757, he served under Admiral Hawke; and, in the ensuing year, was appointed commodore of a squadron, with which he destroyed a number of ships and magazines, at St. Malo's. In August 1759, Commodore Howe took possession of Cherbourg, and destroyed the bason. This was followed by the unfortunate affair of St. Cas, where the British troops, particularly the guards, suffered considerably. Here Commodore Howe displayed his courage and humanity in saving the retreating soldiers, at the hazard of his own life. Soon after this, upon the death of his brother, he became Lord Howe, and contributed, by his bravery, to the victory over Monsieur Conflans. In 1763, he was appointed to the Admiralty-board, where he remained till 1765, when he was made treasurer of the navy.

In 1770, he was appointed commander-in-chief, in the Mediterranean. In the American war, he commanded the fleet on that coast. In 1782, he was sent to the relief of Gibraltar, which service he performed within sight of the French and Spanish fleets. In the year following, he was made first Lord of the Admiralty, which office he soon after resigned; but, at the end of the year, he was re-appointed, and continued in that station until 1788, when he was created an English earl.

In 1793, he took the command of the channel fleet; and, on the first of June 1794, obtained a decisive victory over the French fleet. With 25 ships of the line, he then fearlessly attacked the republican fleet, consisting of 26, directing his own ship, the *Queen Charlotte*, to be brought close along side the French admiral. Such was the havoc made, that in less than an hour the French admiral fled, with all the ships in his van able to follow. The *Queen Charlotte*, having lost her fore and main top masts in the action, was unable to join in the pursuit. One of the enemy's ships went down in the action; seven, however, remained in his possession, and one of these, also, sunk before effectual assistance could be given to the crew, though many of them were eventually saved. Soon after his lordship's arrival, at Portsmouth, his majesty and the royal family visited the fleet; and he was presented, by his sovereign, with a diamond hilted sword, and had the honour of their company, to dine with him, on board the *Queen Charlotte*.

Lord Howe was about five feet nine inches high; a complete manly figure, neither lean nor corpulent. His complexion was inclined to brown, and his countenance rather thoughtful and expressive of his characteristic dignity. It was at this interview, that the victorious earl nobly transferred the compliments paid himself to his crew: "'Tis not I! 'tis those brave fellows," said he, pointing to the seamen, "who have gained the victory." Earl Howe continued the command of the channel fleet until 1797, when he finally struck his flag. The last service he performed, was suggesting the proper means of suppressing the mutiny at the *Nore*; and his lordship died in September 1799, in the 74th year of his age.





## SIR PHILIP SIDNEY.

THIS gallant gentleman, of whom it has been justly said, that "he approached more nearly to the idea of a perfect knight, than any character of any age or nation," was born at Penshurst, in Kent, Nov. 29, 1554. His father, Sir Henry Sidney, being Lord President of the Marches of Wales, residing at Ludlow Castle, sent his son to school at Shrewsbury. Though of delicate health in his younger years, his proficiency, both at school and at the university of Oxford, where he was placed under Dr. Thomas Thornton, the preceptor of William Camden, was such as might be expected from a fine genius endowed with perseverance and activity. In 1572, young Sidney was recommended to Mr. Walsingham, at that time the English ambassador in France, where Charles IX. appointed him gentleman in ordinary of his bed-chamber. Mr. Sidney, immediately after the massacre of St. Bartholomew, proceeded to Frankfort, where he lodged in the house of the celebrated printer, Andrew Wechel, and here commenced his acquaintance with one of the most illustrious champions of literature, Languet, the friend of the King of Sweden. At Vienna, he learned horsemanship and the use of arms; and at Venice, instead of joining in the revelries of the profligate, he associated with the most respectable and learned of his contemporaries. At Padua, he applied himself to geometry and astronomy; and here he became known to Tasso.

Upon his return to England, in May 1575, he was the delight of the English court; Queen Elizabeth treating him with such kindness, as to call him "her Philip," in opposition to her sister's Philip of Spain. In the following year, he went ambassador to Vienna. To smooth a mind ruffled by the treatment he received from some of the courtiers, particularly the Earl of Oxford, he retired to Wilton, the seat of his brother-in-law, where he wrote his *Arcadia*, which went through fourteen editions, and made its appearance in the French, Dutch, and other European languages. In 1579, he represented his native county in parliament. About 1581, appeared his tract, entitled "The Defence of Poesy." In 1583, he married Frances, the only surviving child of Sir Francis Walsingham, and soon after received from her Majesty the honour of knighthood. After having become almost as much the darling of several foreign princes as of his own sovereign, he was appointed governor of Flushing, a cautionary town then given up to Queen Elizabeth by the Dutch for assisting them against the Spaniards. The Earl of Leicester having arrived with 5000 infantry and 1000 cavalry, Sir Philip joined him as general of the latter.

In 1586, Sir Philip took Axell, a town in Flanders, by a night escalade, without the loss of a single man; but in the action near Zutphen in the same year, a musket shot, a little above the left knee, so broke and rifled the bone and entered the thigh upwards towards his body, that it could not be extracted. When a mile and a half from the English camp, on his way to it, being languid and thirsty, he asked for water; but, as he was lifting it to his parched lips, he observed a soldier, whose ghastly countenance immediately induced him to renounce this indulgence, saying, "Take it, this man's necessity is still greater than mine." Here surgical aid unfortunately proved of no avail: after sixteen days' acute suffering, he expired on the 17th of October, aged 32, in the arms of his private secretary, Mr. William Temple. On the 5th of November, his remains were landed at Tower-hill, London, and conveyed to the Minories, near Aldgate, where they lay in state; and on the 16th of February following, they were interred in St. Paul's Cathedral.





## ISAAC WALTON.

THIS fisherman and philosopher of the old school, was born at Stafford, in August 1593; but, though his eventful life was thought worthy the attention of the Oxford antiquary, we have no account where or by whom Mr. Walton was educated: from Wood, we only learn, that Walton settled in London, and followed the trade of a sempster in 1624. At this time, though he was a shopkeeper in the Royal Exchange, he could scarcely be said to have elbow room, as the shops there were but seven feet long, and five broad. He afterwards occupied a house on the north side of Fleet-street, two doors west of the end of Chancery-lane, and here he followed the trade of a linen-draper: the shop was divided between himself and John Mason, a hosier. Walton is supposed to have been first married about 1632: his second wife was the daughter of Thomas Ken, Esq. of Furnival's-inn, and sister of Thomas, afterwards Bishop Ken, one of the seven sent to the Tower. About 1643, Walton left London with a fortune far short of what would now be thought a competency.

While he continued in town, his favourite recreation was angling; and he was undoubtedly the greatest proficient in his time, as the rules and practice laid down by him have been adopted by almost every subsequent writer on the subject. It is therefore with the greatest propriety that Langbaine calls him, "the common father of all anglers." He retired about 1643 to a small estate in Staffordshire, as his loyalty had made him obnoxious to the ruling powers. Wood observes, that, finding it dangerous to remain in the city, he lived some time at Stafford and elsewhere; but mostly in the families of the eminent clergymen of England, by whom he was much beloved.—Dr. John Donne dying in 1631, Mr. Walton, who was his frequent hearer at St. Dunstan's, Fleet-street, was requested by Sir Henry Wootton, to write his life, which Walton finished in 1640, and published, with a collection of the doctor's sermons, in folio. Sir Henry Wootton dying in 1639, Walton was requested by Bishop King to write his life also, which was accordingly finished about 1644. Walton afterwards became the biographer of Hooker, author of Ecclesiastical Polity; of Mr. George Herbert, and Dr. Robert Sanderson.

In 1653, appeared, in a very elegant manner for the time, his "Complete Angler, or, Contemplative Man's Recreation," in small duodecimo, with exquisite cuts of most of the fish. Though the learning of Walton was very moderate, his attainments in literature were far beyond expectation from a man bred to trade. He died at Winchester in 1683, in the 90th year of his age, and was buried in the cathedral there. Walton's Angler has been several times reprinted; but, for this delineation of his life and character, we are indebted to "Bagster's Second Edition, being the Eighth of that work, with Improvements and Additions." In reference to Walton's work, it has been justly observed, "We have few good pastorals in our language, perhaps the best is that prose-poem, Walton's Complete Angler. That well-known work has a beauty and romantic interest equal to its simplicity. Good cheer is not neglected in this work any more than in Homer, or any other history that sets a proper value on the good things of this life. The prints in the Complete Angler give an additional reality and interest to the scenes it describes. While Tottenham-cross remains, and longer, thy work, amiable and happy old man, shall last!"

The will of Mr. Walton was completed only a few moments before his death. His issue was a son, named Isaac, and a daughter, named Anne, after her mother. The son was canon residentiary of Sarum, and the daughter married Dr. Hawkins, a prebendary of Winchester.





## AKENSIDE.

MARK AKENSIDE was born in 1721, at Newcastle upon Tyne. His father, who was a substantial butcher, sent him for the first rudiments of his education to a grammar school, and then to a private academy, in that town. At the age of eighteen, he was sent to the university of Edinburgh to be qualified as a dissenting minister. Here, however, he soon changed his studies for those of physic; and, continuing three years at Edinburgh, removed to Leyden in Holland, for two more, where he took the degree of doctor in 1744. In this year appeared his capital poem, “On the Pleasures of the Imagination,” which was received with great applause, and at once raised the author into celebrity. This poem was soon followed by a very warm invective against the political apostasy of the celebrated Pulteney, Earl of Bath, in an “Epistle to Curio.” In 1745, Akenside published ten odes on different subjects, and in various styles and manners. All these works characterized him as a zealous votary of Grecian philosophy and classical literature. His politics were thought favourable to republicanism, and his theology to deism; yet, in his Ode to Hoadly and to the author of the *Memoirs of the House of Brandenburg*, he has testified his regard for pure Christianity, and his dislike of any attempts to set men free from the restraints of religion. He continued from time to time publishing his poetical effusions; and in 1748 addressed an ode to the Earl of Huntingdon. Another, designed to rouse the martial spirit of the nation, was dedicated to the country gentlemen of England in 1758. Most of his remaining poems first appeared in Dodsley’s collection.

As a physician he settled for a short time at Northampton, then at Hampstead, where he resided two years and a half; and finally fixed himself in London. Dr. Akenside published several medical works, which increasing his reputation, he was appointed one of her Majesty’s physicians. However, a haughtiness and ostentatiousness of manner was by no means calculated to render him generally acceptable. He died of a putrid fever in June 1770, in the forty-ninth year of his age, and was buried in the parish church of St. James’s, Westminster.

The rank which Akenside holds among the English classics is principally owing to his didactic poem on the “Pleasures of the Imagination.” If his genius is to be estimated from this poem, it will be found lofty and elegant, correct and classical. His enthusiasm was rather of that kind which is kindled by reading and imbibing the spirit of authors, than by contemplating at first hand the works of nature. As a versifier, Akenside is allowed to stand amongst those who have produced the most finished models of blank verse. His periods are long, but harmonious; the cadences fall with grace, and the measure is supported with uniform dignity. His muse possesses “the mien erect and high commanding gait.” We shall scarcely find a low or trivial expression introduced, a careless or unfinished line permitted to stand. His verse is sometimes feeble, through too rich a redundancy of ornament, and sometimes laboured into a degree of obscurity from a too anxious desire to avoid natural and simple expressions. The *Pleasures of Imagination*, in which he displayed such a luxuriance of fancy, he did not live to finish according to his plan.

Of his other pieces, the *Hymn to the Naiads* is the longest and best. With the purest spirit of classical literature, it contains much mythological ingenuity and many poetical ideas beautifully expressed. His lyrical productions never appear to have been great favorites with the public. The only sparks of animation they exhibit, are when they touch on political topics.





## LORD ELLENBOROUGH.

THIS great law-lord, the son of Dr. Edmund Law, bishop of Carlisle, was born in 1748 or 9. Till the age of twelve he was educated by his uncle, the Rev. Humphry Christian, of Bottsam, near Cambridge, and was then sent to the Charter-house, London; from whence he removed, in 1768, to St. Peter's college, Cambridge, of which his father had been appointed master in 1736. Having taken his bachelor's degree with great credit, he was admitted a student of Lincoln's-inn; but was called at the usual standing, choosing to practise for a longer period under the bar. For his debut, Mr. Law selected the northern circuit, when the principal causes were in the hands of Messrs. Wallace and Lee: the younger counsel were Lord Auckland, Lord Eldon, and Lord Alvanley; but the latter being induced to remove to the chancery bar, Lords Eldon and Ellenborough remained to divide between them the rich harvest of the field. A singularly able and learned defence, which he made in a difficult insurance cause, drew upon Mr. Law universal attention, and tended to place him among the first pleaders at the bar, and the vast accession of business that followed, was supposed to have laid the foundation of his acquired fortune.

In Westminster Hall, his superiority was not so evident as in other courts; nor did his advancement to the great offices of the profession take place until long after he had been designed for them by the expectations the public had formed of his talents. By the then administration, he had been regarded with an unfavourable eye; but, immediately after its dissolution, he was appointed Attorney General, and brought into the House of Commons, where he consistently defended the measures of the minister. The office of Attorney General is always regarded as a step to a higher department; and on the death of Lord Kenyon, in April 1802, Mr. Law was appointed Chief Justice of the Court of King's Bench, and elevated to a peerage. So rapid a rise, within a year, from the condition of king's counsel to the second dignity of the law, cannot be paralleled in the annals of the profession. As a member of administration, the Lord Chancellor is subject to the varieties of its changes, while the judges cannot be removed from their offices except in consequence of misbehaviour, or addresses from either of the Houses of Parliament; nor is the Lord Chancellor's patronage more than equal to the value of the few lucrative situations within the disposal of the Chief Justice of the King's Bench. In 1782, Lord Ellenborough was married to the daughter of George Philips Towry, Esq. by whom he had a family of three sons and three daughters.

In Lord Ellenborough's display of eloquence, he seemed to aim more at strength than elegance. The poignancy of his invectives has seldom been equalled; and the gravity and solemnity of his manner was best suited to important causes; though he frequently shewed himself able to treat light matters with gaiety and wit. His Lordship, it has been observed, was particularly sore on the subject of libels; and this disposition appeared to have been increased on the trial of Mr. William Hone, who was tried before him about three months before his lordship's decease, for publishing three parodies, viz. "The late John Wilkes's Catechism," "The Political Litany," and "The Sinecurist's Creed;" upon which, much against the inclination of Lord Ellenborough, the jury pronounced the prisoner "Not guilty." The exertions on these trials had a visible effect on the health of the judge; he ceased to exist on Sunday, December 18, 1818, and on the 22nd his remains were removed from his late residence in St. James's square, and interred in the Charter House.





## JOHN HORNE TOOKE.

THIS celebrated political and philological writer was born about the year 1737; his father being a respectable poulterer near Soho-square, and afterwards treasurer to the Middlesex-hospital. After young Mr. Horne had been sent to Westminster school, it was soon discovered that he possessed talents of no common description. From hence, at the usual age, he was removed to Eton, where the keenness of his wit was not spared against any thing that was or appeared to him to be an abuse. From this celebrated school he went to Cambridge, and entered of St. John's college in 1751. Whilst here, it was remarked, that the degree of A. M. was attempted to be withheld from him by Lord Mumford, who afterwards opposed his sitting in the House of Commons.

From the warmth with which the disputes between the whigs and their opponents were carried on, Mr. Tooke is supposed to have imbibed his first principles of politics, and to have published several letters in the newspapers before he obtained his degree at the university. Having entered into holy orders when very young, he had the living or chapelry of Brentford, and was induced to believe he should be appointed one of his Majesty's chaplains; but his acquaintance with Mr. Wilkes dissolved the connection between Mr. Horne and the church for ever; and the ultimate quarrel between Wilkes and Horne supplied a source of scandal for their mutual enemies. This rupture was soon followed by another between Mr. Horne and the celebrated Junius, who evidently felt and respected his talents. In 1777, Mr. Tooke was cast for a libel, written two years before upon the king's troops, on their conduct at Lexington, in America. Improving the period of his imprisonment, Mr. Horne published his Letter to Mr. Dunning on the English partide. Having renounced his clerical profession, though he had been entered of the Inner Temple in 1756, the benchers objected to his admission solely because he had been in holy orders. His "Two Pair of Portraits" appeared in 1788.

In 1790, Mr. Tooke first became a candidate for Westminster, but did not succeed; and to this a trial in the Court of King's Bench was annexed, in which he obtained a verdict. The result of the trial of Mr. Horne Tooke for pretended high treason, in 1794, is well known. His election for Westminster, in 1796, was followed by his expulsion from the House of Commons in 1801; notwithstanding, he bore his faculties there with more meekness than his enemies bad any right to expect. Mr. Tooke's acquaintance with Sir Francis Burdett continued from the commencement of the revolutionary war till the end of his life. For several years past it had been observed, that Mr. Tooke's independent fortune had enabled him to devote his time to literature and the company of men of talents, at his house at Wimbledon; but towards the latter end of his life his hospitality was confined to the dinners which he gave on Sundays to his political friends.

His health having been long in a declining state, mortification seemed likely to follow the loss of the use of his lower extremities. Dr. Pearson, Mr. Cline, and Mr. Tooke's two daughters, attended him; and he died, March 19, 1812, expressing his gratitude to the author of his existence for "having passed so long and happy a life;" but, not being a believer in the Christian revelation, his wish was to be laid in the vault in his garden. This being declined for prudential reasons, urged by the female part of his family, his remains were deposited in the vault at Ealing church, where the funeral service was read by the Rev. Dr. Carr. His works, too many to enumerate here, with his memory, will long remain.





## LORD CHARLEMONT.

THIS noble and disinterested patriot, the son of James the third Viscount Charlemont, was born in Dublin, in August 1728. Though never at a public school, it is said he had as many preceptors as the Regent Duke of Orleans had governors. In 1746, he was in Holland, and witnessed the revolution that terminated in the establishment of the Prince of Orange as Stadtholder; thence he went to the English camp in Germany, and passed some time with William Duke of Cumberland. He afterwards visited Turin, where he met with the celebrated David Hume, whom he was much attached to without deviating from his own religious principles. His lordship next visited Rome, and from Messina proceeded by Malta to Constantinople and Egypt. He returned through Greece to Italy, and from thence through France, home, after an absence of nine years; during which, he had been connected with some of the first characters in every country he had resided in. His living principally in Ireland after he came home, he owned was no small effort of patriotism; as he had, in no part of Europe, so few acquaintances or friends.

Lord Chancellor Jocelyn's panegyric upon him was pronounced about this time. In 1768, his lordship married Miss Hickman, daughter of Robert Hickman, esq. of the county of Clare. Though he became intimate with the Marquis of Hartington, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, and Colonel Conway, his secretary, being determined to remain an independent nobleman, he solicited nothing for himself or his connections; on the contrary, he was indignant at some of the parliamentary leaders, when he supposed their opposition arose from improper motives. When in London, his lordship lived much with the opposition, and in fact always had a house there after he had accepted of an earldom, till 1773. To the Marquis of Rockingham he was much attached. Among his friends in Ireland were Lord Powerscourt, the Ponsonbys, Mr. Dobbs, Mr. Burke, Mr. Daly, Mr. Flood, and Mr. Grattan who was returned to parliament under his lordship's auspices.

Lord Charlemont's history is in a great measure blended with that of the Irish volunteers, and his corps shewed their gallant spirit at Galway, under the report of a French squadron being on the coast. Uniform in his conduct, he was in harmony with ministers, except as to reform, and with them opposed the catholic bill. He afterwards caused Mr. Jephson to be elected for Charlemont; and his son, Lord Caulfield, was chosen for the county of Armagh; but, being present when he first spoke in the Irish commons, he was much agitated.

After the breaking out of the rebellion in 1798, he was highly pleased with the amnesty granted by Lord Cornwallis, and as much grieved with the murder of Mr. Hume. Consulting with that nobleman about the proposed measure of the union, the temporary defeat of this project yielded him no small satisfaction. In 1799, he became very ill, and died at Charlemont House, Dublin, on the 4th of August, that year, in the seventieth year of his age. It was his wish to have been privately interred in the cathedral of Armagh, but this could not be. Though, strictly speaking, he was neither statesman, orator, nor author, nor among the conquerors or desolators of mankind, he was, in every sense of the word, an excellent man; of morals unstained, of mind and manners the most elegant, he was not only such a fine gentleman as Addison has sketched with a happy pencil, but something more. In painting, sculpture, and, above all, in architecture, his taste and knowledge were discriminating and profound: he was also the patron of many learned and ingenious men, and was himself an elegant poetical translator.





## MELANCTHON.

PHILIP MELANCTHON was born at Bretten, in Saxony, in February 1497. His father, George Schwartzerd, for this was the German family name, was a native of Heidelberg: his mother was the daughter of John Reuter, a respectable man, and for some years mayor of Bretten. Melancthon was at first placed with his brother George at a public school in his native place, but was soon after put under private tuition: his Latin preceptor was John Hungarus, a faithful preacher, who had reason to be charmed with the rapid proficiency of his pupil. At Pfortzheim, Melancthon was introduced into the study of Greek, and here he became the favourite of the celebrated Reuchlin, or Capnio. Dissatisfied with his ordinary exercises, Melancthon wrote several epigrams, epitaphs, prologues, and occasional poetical epistles to his friends, some of which were commended even by Julius Scaliger. After remaining two years at Pfortzheim, Melancthon was sent to the university of Heidelberg, where he was soon looked up to as a first-rate youth; and, besides assisting his fellow students, is said to have written some things even for the professors. He was also entrusted with the education of the two sons of Count Leonstein; yet, being refused a higher degree on account of his youth, he removed to Tübingen, on the Neckar, in September 1512. Here, in medicine, he studied Galen so thoroughly as to repeat the greater part of his treatises; he also began to be much devoted to the sober part of theology, and first became acquainted with Oecolampadius, his senior by several years; and he was not seventeen when he was created doctor in philosophy, or master of arts.

Becoming a public lecturer at Tübingen, the elegant taste he discovered in the Latin classics excited general admiration; he also taught rhetoric, logic, mathematics, and theology. So early as 1515, he attracted the notice of the sagacious and learned Erasmus to a very high degree. One of the earliest of Melancthon's works, now extant, is an Oration on the liberal Arts, delivered at Tübingen in 1517, at twenty years of age. From hence he removed to the university of Wittemberg, in Upper Saxony, where, as a professor, he commenced his character of a reformer, and became a coadjutor or assistant of Luther; his increasing influence now began to extend all through Germany. In 1520, he married Catharine Crappcn, a respectable and excellent young lady of Wittemberg; and both of them were charitable beyond, rather than within, the bounds of prudence; and, besides, he was kind to a fault, and entirely without pride. Anne, his eldest daughter, seems to have been his favourite child; and is called by Luther, "the elegant daughter of Philip." The death of the Elector Frederic of Saxony caused Melancthon to say, that this prince "had plucked a flower from all the virtues."

The consequence of Melancthon's invitation to England, and the correspondence that followed, was highly honourable to the reformer, as was also his communication with Archbishop Cranmer; but not so his approbation of the burning of Servetus by Calvin. Melancthon survived his beloved wife only two years and some months. Having frequently intimated that he should not live beyond his sixty-third year, he was taken ill on the 6th of April, and died on the 19th, in the year 1560, aged sixty-three years, two months, and three days. "His character was privileged beyond the common walks of virtuous life, quite in the verge of heaven; and he expired like a wave scarcely curling to the evening zephyr of an unclouded summer sky, and gently rippling to the shore." His remains were placed in a leaden coffin, near to the body of Martin Luther; and a long Latin inscription was written on the coffin, containing a chronological notice of the principal circumstances of his life.





## THE MARQUIS OF GRANBY.

THE illustrious JOHN MANNERS, during the comparatively short period of the exertion of his military career, justly enjoyed the reputation of one of the greatest characters in his profession. This brave and fortunate officer, the eldest son of John, third Duke of Rutland, was born in January 1721. Feeling an early attachment to arms, upon the breaking out of the rebellion in 1745, he immediately raised a regiment of foot, at his own expense, for the service of his country.

On the 3rd of September 1750, he married Frances, eldest daughter of Charles, Duke of Somerset, by whom he had two sons and a daughter. In March 1755, he was advanced to the rank of major general, and on the 13th February 1758, he was promoted to be lieutenant general and colonel of the royal horse guards blue.

At the famous battle of Minden, fought on the 1st August 1759, he displayed such uncommon judgement and intrepidity, that his Serene Highness the Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick ordered a public acknowledgement to be made, to lieutenant general the Marquis of Granby, how certain he was, that, if he had enjoyed the good fortune to have possessed him at the head of the cavalry of the right wing, his presence would have greatly contributed to make the decision of that day more completely brilliant. Thus, as Dr. Smollet has observed, a severe reflection was made upon Lord George Sackville, the marquis's superior in command. After this signal distinction, the marquis was immediately appointed commander in chief of the British forces, serving in Germany under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick; and on the 14th September, in the same year, he was made lieutenant general of the Ordnance.

In the battle of Minden, the French lost a great number of men, and forty pieces of cannon; whereas, the loss of the allies was very inconsiderable, as it chiefly fell upon a few regiments of British infantry under Major Generals Waldegrave and Kingsley. To the extraordinary prowess of those gallant Britons, and the fire of the artillery admirably served by the Captains Philips, Macbean, Drummond, and Foy, the victory was in a great measure ascribed. The same night the enemy repassed the Weser, and burned the bridges; and the next day the garrison of Minden surrendered at discretion.

The marquis distinguished himself still more in the battle of Warbourg, which was fought on the 30th July 1760. Here the French were attacked, almost at the same instant, in flank and rear, with equal impetuosity and effect. As the infantry of the allied army could not march fast enough to charge at the same time, the Marquis of Granby was ordered to advance with the cavalry of the right, when that of the French, though very numerous, retired at his approach; except three squadrons, who stood the charge, and were immediately broken. After this, the enemy's infantry suffered much from the British cavalry, whilst the town of Warbourg was carried by the Britannic legion. Maxwell's battalion, and Beckwith's brigade, composed of grenadiers and Highlanders, distinguished themselves remarkably on this occasion. The enemy left fifteen hundred killed and wounded on the field, with some colours, and ten pieces of cannon; but lay all night under arms, and retired the next day.

To the military abilities of the Marquis of Granby, it is to be added, that he possessed the most unsullied honour, and such a share in the affection of the troops serving under him, that never could be exceeded; in fact, no man could be more beloved, by all parties, and all ranks of people, than the marquis, who, having retired from public life after the peace of 1763, died in 1770, aged fifty years. Being survived by his father, and his eldest son having died an infant, his second son succeeded to the title of Duke of Rutland.





## FROISSART.

THIS eminent French chronicler and poet was born at Valenciennes, about the year 1337. His father was a painter of arms: his son John, it appears, loved hunting, music, assemblies, dancing, dress, good living, wine, and women; but his passion for history filled up that void left by pleasure, and became a source of amusement to him and information to others. Having left school when he was about twenty, to attend "his dear lord and master, Sir Robert de Namur, Lord of Beaufort," he undertook to write the History of the Wars of his own time, particularly those after the battle of Poitiers; and four years after this, coming to England, he presented a part of this history to Queen Philippa of Hainault, wife of Edward III. This being well received, probably gained him the title of clerk, secretary, or writer of the chamber, to that princess; and during the five years in which he was attached to that service, he travelled at her expense to various parts of Europe, in search of objects that might enrich his history. Few of the particulars of Froissart's life whilst he was in England are known, excepting that he was present at the separation of the king and queen in 1361, with their son the Prince of Wales, and the princess his lady, when they were going to take possession of the government of Aquitaine; and that he was between Eltham and Westminster, when King John passed on his return to England in 1363. A pastoral in Froissart's poems, seems to allude to that event.

Whilst on his travels, he remained six months in Scotland, penetrating as far as the Highlands on horseback, with a portmanteau behind him, and followed by a greyhound. The King of Scotland and many lords treated him so handsomely, that he could have wished to have returned thither. William Earl of Douglas entertained him fifteen days at his castle of Dalkeith. Of his journey into North Wales, we have no particulars. In 1366, he was at Bourdeaux, when the Princess of Wales was brought to bed of a son, afterwards Richard II. Froissart wished to accompany the prince to Spain, but was sent back by him to his mother in England. In 1368, Froissart was at several Italian courts; and with Lionel Duke of Clarence, who married the Duke of Milan's daughter, was present at their magnificent reception at Turin, which lasted three days. Hence he returned to Milan, where the same Count Amadeus gave him a good *cotardic*, a sort of coat, with 20 florins of gold: at Ferrara, he received forty ducats from the King of Cyprus, and he afterwards went to Rome.

The death of Queen Philippa in 1369, was a great loss to Froissart, and he then went into his own country, where he obtained the living of Lestines; but, weary of being a priest, he became secretary to Wincelous Duke of Luxembourg, for whom he made a collection of songs, rondeaus, &c. This duke dying, Froissart found another patron in Guy Count de Blois, and became clerk of his chapel.

After a series of travels, we find him again in his own country, about 1390, solely occupied in completing his history. In 1395, he came to England, and was received with high marks of favour by Richard the second. How long Froissart lived after 1400, cannot be exactly ascertained, but he died in France. As a poet, he is forgotten; and till the publication of Mr. Johnes's translation, the best edition of the Chronicles was that of Lyons in four volumes folio. By the French, he has been charged with gross partiality for the English. In fact, Froissart has been the panegyrist both of the French and English, whenever the skill or valour of either excited his admiration; and he has done ample justice to the famous Sir Walter Manny in particular, a most chivalrous knight.





## EDMUND WALLER.

THIS poet, of great celebrity for his time, was born at Coleshill, in Hertfordshire, in March 1605. His father, dying in his infancy, left him an estate of more value than ten thousand a year at this period. His mother was sister to John Hampden, who fell in the battle of Chalgrove, espousing the parliament's interest, in opposition to that of Charles I. Educated at Eton, Waller removed to King's College, Oxford, but frequented the court of James the first at the age of sixteen. His debut in politics and poetry was early and splendid; he was chosen a member of parliament in his eighteenth year. His first production was a copy of verses, on the Prince of Wales's escape at St. Andero; but, happily for himself, being placed above the necessity of writing for a subsistence, he composed all his pieces occasionally at different intervals. He also improved his fortune, by marrying a rich widow, in the city, who died in a short time, and left him a widower of five and twenty. Young, rich, vain, and amorous, he next became the suitor of the Lady Dorothea Sydney, eldest daughter of the Earl of Leicester, who became his celebrated Saccharissa, but rewarded Waller by giving her hand to the Earl of Sunderland. His Amoret, another beauty, was, according to Mr. Fenton, the Lady Sophia Murray; but he afterwards married a lady of the family of Bresse or Breaux, who bore him several children.

As Waller distinguished himself among the republicans in parliament, his speeches so far surpass all his contemporaries in eloquence, that his language would not be deemed obsolete at the present day. Waller, on several occasions, undoubtedly proved that he was as much an enemy to anarchy as to despotism; and in his speech upon the great question, "Whether Episcopacy ought to be abolished," he concluded by moving a resolution to *reform*, and not to abolish, it. At length, in 1643, Waller's participation in a plot against the parliament cost him a year's imprisonment, a fine of £10,000, and his banishment to France. The panegyric, which Waller wrote on the death of the protector, appeared an act of great inconsistency; and, as Dr. Johnson says, seemed to have been dictated by real veneration for his memory.

On the restoration of Charles II. Waller, not less a pliant courtier than an eloquent poet, offered his adulation at court; and it is probable that his talents were not much valued either by Cromwell or Charles, to whom, when the disparity of his congratulation was remarked, Waller made this memorable reply, "Poets, sire, succeed better in fiction than in truth." Waller, however, continued in the full vigour of his genius to the end of his life; and though he drank water, he was enabled to heighten the mirth of bacchanalian assemblies. In the parliament, Burnet says, he, though old, said the liveliest things of any among them.

At the accession of James II. in 1685, being then fourscore, he was chosen for Saltash, in Cornwall. When he retired to Beaconsfield, his legs began to swell; when, asking Sir Charles Scarborough, who then attended the king, what this meant; "Sir," answered he, "your blood will run no longer." The poet repeated some lines from Virgil, and returned to Beaconsfield, where he expired on the 21st of October 1687. The characters, says Dr. Johnson, by which Waller intended to distinguish his writings, are sprightliness and dignity; in his smaller pieces, he endeavours to be gay; in his larger, to be great; and of his light productions, the chief source is gallantry. He has a monument in the churchyard of Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, where he was interred.





## LORD CAMDEN.

CHARLES PRATT, Earl Camden, was the third son of Sir John Pratt, chief justice of the king's bench, and was born in 1713. Soon after having finished his education, he was destined to shine not less as an illustrious ornament of the English bar, than as a pillar of the constitution; and, on the advancement of Mr. Henley to the House of Lords, in 1757, Mr. Pratt was appointed attorney-general. Continuing to rise in public estimation, created by the splendour of his abilities, and the integrity of his conduct, in 1762, he was appointed chief justice of the court of common pleas; and in the following year advanced to the dignity of lord chancellor.

Lord Camden, in 1770, having, in the course of the debate, which took place upon the Middlesex election, condemned, in decisive terms, the proceedings of the House of Commons, and actually dividing on this occasion with Lord Chatham, was immediately compelled to relinquish the great seal; but such was the political consternation prevailing at this crisis, that no person competent to the office could be persuaded to accept it. Mr. Yorke, attorney-general, son of the late Lord Chancellor Hardwicke, a man of the highest professional ability, had given, as it was reported and believed, a positive assurance to the Earl his brother, that he would not upon any terms listen to the offers of the court; but upon being sent for by the king, and earnestly solicited, he, at length, in a fatal moment, consented to become the successor of Lord Camden, in his high office, and a patent was ordered to be prepared for his elevation to the peerage, by the title of Lord Morden. On repairing to the residence of his brother, in order to explain to him the motives of his acceptance of the seals, he was refused admittance; and, in the agitation of his mind, unable to endure the torture of his own reflections, he in a few hours put a period to his existence. The great seal was after this put into commission; and, at length, in January 1771, given to Mr. Justice Bathurst, created Baron Apsley, a nobleman by whose talents the brilliant reputation of Lord Camden was in no danger of being eclipsed.

In 1782, Lord Camden was appointed president of the council, which office he resigned the following year, but was afterwards re-appointed, and held it till his decease, on the 19th of April 1794.

On the question of libels, Earl Camden always opposed the doctrine laid down by high authority; viz. "that juries were only the judges of the matter of fact, and not of the law." He also acquired immortal honour as a British magistrate, by granting the celebrated John Wilkes a habeas corpus; and afterwards, on his being brought before the court of common pleas, discharging him from his confinement in the Tower, where that eminent political writer had been confined by an illegal general warrant. Lord Camden's wise, equitable, and intrepid, conduct on this remarkable occasion, as interesting every true-born Briton, was so acceptable to the public, that the city of London presented him with the freedom of their corporation in a gold box, and desired to have his portrait, which was put up in Guildhall. The cities of Dublin, Bath, Exeter, and Norwich, also presented him with the freedom of their respective corporations.



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